Paper for Scholars

We sell a pound of good pencil paper for school use for 5 cents per pound. We also have some paper cuttings which we sell for 3c a pound. This is in narrow strips but it makes pretty good paper to figure on.

The Bethel News.

For Sale!—A new WHITE Sewing Machine. Drop head. Will be sold cheap. Inquire at the NEWS office.

AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BETHEL AND SURROUNDING TOWNS.

$1.25 Per Year, in advance. BETHEL, MAINE, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13, 1897. Vol. II. No. 33

BETHEL DIRECTORY.

ARRANGEMENT OF MAILS.

Mails Close.

GOING EAST, 8.30 a. m. 3. p. m. Closed mail for Portland and all points beyond 3.15 p. m. GOING WEST, 10.10 a. m. 4.15 p. m. For Albany 4.30 p. m. For Lakeside and intermediate offices. 11.45 a. m.

Mails Arrive.

FROM EAST 11.00 a. m. 4.45 p. m. From Portland and points beyond 7. a. m. FROM WEST 7. a. m. 10. a. m. From Albany 3.15 p. m. From Lakeside and Intermediate offices 2.30 p. m.

OFFICE HOURS; 7 a. m., to 8 30 p. m., Sundays 12 M to 13.30 p. m., 6 to 6.30 p. m.

CHURCHES.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Main Street.

Pastor, Rev. A. Hamilton, Residence, Main Street.

SABBATH SERVICE, Preaching 10.45 a. m., Sunday School 12 m., Epworth League Devotional Service, 6.15 p m., Gospel Meeting. 7.00 P. M.

MONDAY, Epworth League business and literary Meeting first Monday in each Month.

TUESDAY Class Meeting at 7.30.

WEDNESDAY, Ladies' Circle first and third Wednesday evening of each month.

FRIDAY, Prayer meeting 7.30.

SATURDAY, Junior League 2 30 p. m.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH,

Rev. F. E. Barton, Pa tor. Residence next door to church.

SABBATH SERVICES; Preaching 10.45 a. m.; Sunday school 12 M.; Y. P C. U. 7.00 p. m

CONGREGATIONALIST CHURCH,

Rev. Israel Jordan Pastor.

SUNDAY SERVICES; Preaching 10.45 a. m.; Sunday School 12 m.; Y. P. S. C E. 6.00 p. m.; Prayer Meeting 7.00 p. m.; Wednesday Eve'g Prayer Meeting 7.30 p. m

MIDDLE INTERVALE BAPTIST CHURCH.

SABBATH SERVICE, Preaching at 10 30 by Mr. Geo. F. Green; Sunday-school 12 m. C. E. S. at 4. p. m. Wednesday. Social service 4 p. m.

SOCIETIES.

ODD FELLOWS.

MOUNT ABRAM LODGE NO. 31, Meetings: Saturday evening each week. Officers:—N. G., Wallace Farewell V. G., W. T. Gunther Per. Sec'y, Henry Farwell, Rec. Sec'y. C. C. Bryant, Treas. S. L. French.

Trustees. { C. Bisbee, G. A. Burbank, E. S. Kilborne.

SUNSET REBEKAH LODGE, No. 64, meet 1st and 3rd Monday at I.O O. F. Hall.—Officers; N. G., Anna French; V. G., Minnie Frost; R. Sec., Maude Hastings; R. Sec., Jennie Gibson Treas. Ellen Burbank; War., Marcia York; R. S. N. G., Susie Frost; L. S. N. G., Ava Finney; R. S. V. G., Etta Barker; L. S. V. G., Ella Bryant. Chap., Jennie Philbrook; I. G., Lydia Parker; O. G., T B Kendall. Con. M. Gibson.

MASONIC.

BETHEL LODGE, NO. 97., Reg. Com., 2d Thursday every month., E. S. Kilborn, Master. J. H Barrows, S. W., C. E. Abbott, Jr, J. W. M. W. Chandler, Treas., J. C. Billings. Sec.

OXFORD R. A. C. NO. 29., Stated Convocation 3d Tuesday, every month, D. G. Lovejoy, Z. P., L. T. Barker, K., Chas Mason, S., J. C. Billings O. H., J. A. Morton, P. S., N. E. Richardson, R. A. C., M. W. Chandler, Sec, E. S. Kilborn, Treas.

GRAND ARMY.

BROWN POST, NO 84, A. H. Hutchinson P C., A. M. True A. D.C. Stated meetings first and third Tuesday evening each month.

THE W R. C Meet first and third Tuesday evening, of each month, Mrs. Mary Bean, President, Mrs. Cyrene Littlehale, Sec

UNITED ORDER OF THE GOLDEN CROSS.

GRAND VIEW COMMANDERY, NO. 434, meets 2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 7.30., J. H. Barrows, Noble Commander, Mrs. Carrie Arno, Vice. Fannie Bisbee, Nob. Keeper of Records, Mrs. Sophronia W. Grover, Financial Keeper of Rec. Calvin Bisbee Worthy Treas. Dr. J. A. Morton, Worthy Pastor, T. H. Durell, Worthy Herald.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

HELPING HAND LODGE No. 227, meet every Thursday evening at Ladies Relief Corps Hall— Officers; Chief Templar, E. A. Barker, Vice Templar, Vira Parker. Secretary, Fred Farwell; Financial Secretary Jennie Merrill. Treasurer, C H. Davis Chaplain, Mrs. C. O. Foster; Marshal, F. Eastman. D. M. Frank Leach. Guard, E. Hutchinson, Sent, Chas. King, L. D., C. O. Foster.

UNITED ORDER OF PILGRIM FATHERS.

SUDBURY COL., No. 50; J. C. Billings Gov; E. C. Park. Secy; E. S. Kilborn, Treas. M. W. Chandler, collector.

Toilet Soaps,...

Three Cakes for 10 cents.

AT L. C. HALL'S.

WANTS, LOST, ETC.

Notices under this head inserted one week for 25 cents. Three weeks for 50 cents.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

A House on High street 7 rooms. City Water. Rent only $6. a month. Inquire of

J. B Chapman.

FOR RENT.

The house just vacated by Miss E. E. Barnham, No. 2 Park St. This is one of the most desirable rents in this village. The house has 7 rooms, and is in first class repair.

Ceylon Rowe.

For Sale.

An elegant new White Sewing Machine. Has drop head and all the latest improvements. Will be sold very cheap for cash or will be sold on its ailment plan.

NEWS Publishing Company, Bethel, Me.

Can be seen at the NEWS office.

A Want Ad.

In these Columns costs but little—50c. three weeks—Try it. 1w28

For Sale!

{We have For Sale a Quantity of...}

DRY AND GREEN

Cord Wood

ALSO a lot of nice SHOATS that weigh from 50 to 100 lbs.

—Inquire of—

Henry and Wallace Farwell.

32tf Bethel, Me.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their $1,800 prize offer and list of two hundred inventions wanted.

JOB PRINTING at News Office.

25 CTS. PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION 25 CTS

NEWS ABOUT HOME.

WHAT OUR PEOPLE ARE DOING. ITEMS OF INTEREST, ETC., ETC.

"A CITY THAT IS SET ON A HILL CANNOT BE HID."

If—
Cold.
If you—
No snow.
Subscribe now.
If you wish to—
If you wish to enjoy—
New bill board at Odeon Hall.
Sleigh dealers are discouraged.
If you wish to enjoy prosperity—
The lumbermen are sighing for snow.

I. W. Ames is home from Bar Harbor.

If you wish to enjoy prosperity, advertise—

Geo. Chapman of Andover is in Bethel for a few days.

E. C. Bowler of the NEWS office is in Berlin this week.

Irving Clark is home from New York visiting his mother.

If you wish to enjoy prosperity, advertise in the BETHEL NEWS.

The population of Maine was increased by about 15,000 last year.

Hon. A. E. Herrick was in Berlin Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Miss Edith Grover went to Lewiston last Saturday. She returns today.

Mrs. D. G. Lovejoy and little daughter, Esther, went to West Bethel Monday.

The Epworth League met at the home of Miss Cora Bean last Monday evening.

Mr. Owen Demerritt is at home, as the mill at Locke's Mills is shut down for the present.

Hermon Mason went to Portland to attend the re-union of the alumni of Shaw's Business College.

Mrs. J. H. Bounds of Locke's Mills, was in Bethel last Saturday and attended the rehearsal that evening.

Anyone wishing the back numbers of the war articles by Col. Edwards can obtain the same at the NEWS office.

The meetings at the several churches were largely attended last week and a great deal of interest was manifested.

Remember, for only 35 cents you can get the NEWS the entire time during which Col. Edwards' history of Co. I is running.

J. S. Hutchins of Walker's Mills, was in this village last Saturday. Mr. Hutchins is teaching the village school at Bryant's Pond this winter.

The subject of the discourse at the M. E. church next Sunday morning will be, "The Relation of the Christian Church to the World."

All interested in forming a Literary Society are requested to meet at the home of Mrs. H. C. Andrews' tomorrow afternoon at half past two o'clock.

"When you've a minute to spare," said the insurance agent, "I'd like to talk to you"

"All right," replied the busy man. "Come in in about a year."—Philadelphia North American.

It is fast getting so that a man who expectorates in a public place can no longer expect to rate as a gentleman.

The Bethel chorus resumed rehearsals Saturday evening last with a fairly good attendance and much enthusiasm. The music is very difficult, but the manner in which the chorus take hold of it is very gratifying. The director hopes to see a full chorus Thursday evening.

We were recently shown a photograph of the residence of F. I. Barker of Santa Barbara, California. The photo was a beautiful one and shows that California artists understand their business. Mr. Barker has a lovely home and we do not wonder that a contented smile steals over his face as he stands in the front yard and views the fruits of his labor.

D. G. Master, A. L. F. Pike, assisted by J. W. Crommett of Norway as G. Marshall, T. B. Kendall as G. Warden, C. Bisbee as G. Sec., G. A. Burbank as G. Treas., F. L. Edwards as G. Guardian, installed the following officers of Mount Abram Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F., Saturday evening, Jan. 9th: Wallace Farwell, N. G.; Wm. T. Gunther, V. G.; C. C. Bryant, Rec. Sec.; H. Farwell, Perm. Sec.; I. French, Treas.; G. A. Burbank, R. S. N. G.; C. L. Sanborn, L. S. N. G.; E. L. Kilborn, Warden; J. C. Billings, Conductor; B. W. Kimball, R. S. S.; F. L. Edwards, L. S. S.; C. Bisbee, Chaplain; C. L. Swan, R. S. V. G.; J. W. Smith, L. S. V. G.; S. N. Buck, I. G.; G. A. Plaisted, O. G.; G. G. Kimball, P. Grand.

Fred Merrill has returned to Bowdoin.

Mrs. Enoch Foster is out of town for a week.

Mrs. E. C. Rowe has returned from Portland.

A. S. Bean was down from West Bethel Monday.

Judge Rich is again confined to his room by illness.

Miss Annie Brickett went up to Andover Sunday last.

A. H. Mason is laid up with a violent attack of rheumatism.

Mrs. Mark Chandler spent two days in South Paris last week.

Mrs. Needham has sold over 500 pounds of thread the past year.

Miss Fannie Capen is in the NEWS office learning typesetting.

Lon Chapman has sent away over 200 rabbits this fall and winter.

Roy Grover and wife are to occupy a part of Frank Barker's rent on Vernon street.

We print the larger part of Gov. Powers' inaugural speech this week on the 4th page.

We have received a number of letters expressing pleasure at Col. Edwards' war articles.

It was the 26th of January last winter before we had any sleighing and it is about as bad this season.

A man never realizes what a hard world this is until the ice suddenly takes his feet out from under him.

The Y. P. S. C. E. will hold a "Mystery" social in Garland Chapel Friday evening. All are cordially invited.

Mrs. A. M. Clark and Miss Ruby Clark started Monday afternoon to attend the wedding of Mr. Roscoe Clark and Miss Webster.

Mrs. Abiel Chandler has gone to Portland to visit friends, and will also go to Augusta and Mr. Chandler will return with her as the doctor pronounces him much improved in health.

The teachers still hold their Saturday afternoon meetings with Mrs. Mason. These meetings are very helpful to our teachers, as the best plans and methods of teaching are discussed.

This is an age of specialists. If a man has an especial adaptibility as a house carpenter, a tonsorial artist, or a Grand Trunk brakeman, he had better stick to his particular line and not undertake to prescribe for sick cows.

The Ladies' Club met with Mrs. E. E. Whitney Thursday afternoon. The Maine items brought to light the fact that the town of Lincoln could once boast of a piano factory and the account of the "coon cat industry" created a good deal of merriment and called to mind some wonderful stories about our domestic pets.

The report of the Maine Insane Hospital shows that 149 men and 91 women were admitted during 1896, making the whole number for the year 946, of whom 522 were males and 424 females; 237 have been discharged, leaving at the close of the year 382 men and 327 women.

Sheriff Fred A. Porter has appointed his deputies: Chandler Garland and and H. E. Hemmond at Paris; C. M. Wormell and Milton Penley at Bethel; Jas. R. Tucker at Mexico; Jas. L. Parker and Thaddeus Cross at Norway; D. A. Gates at Dixfield; E. L. Flint at Hiram; Geo E. Shirley at Fryeburg; Jas. W. Chapman at Porter; Walter C. Bassett at Lowell; A. E. True at Mechanic Falls.

One thing is certain. It will not do to fool with a bad cold. No one can tell what the end will be. Pneumonia, catarrh, chronic bronchitis, if not consumption, invariably result from a neglected cold. It is surprising too, that bad colds are so often neglected when one remembers how easily and at what little expense they may be cured. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is prompt and effectual, and costs but a trifle; 25 or 50 cents is a trifle as compared with the disastrous affects of a neglected cold. Mr. Abner Mercer of Dilworthtown, Chester County, Pa., in speaking of this remedy, said: "Sometime ago I had a bad cold and cough. I tried almost everything. Finally Mr. Hunt, the druggist, recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and one 50 cent bottle of it cured me entirely." For sale by G. R. Wiley Bethel, and G. O. Jones Bryant's Pond.

WAR REMINISCENCES

OF THE BETHEL COMPANY,

Company I, Fifth Maine Regiment.

BY COL. CLARK S. EDWARDS.

NUMBER II.

The Fifth Maine Regiment left Portland for Washington, June 25, 1861. Forty rounds of ammunition were distributed to each soldier before boarding the train.

The boys of Company "I" were particularly busy on the morning of the 25th, for at daybreak the tents were struck, baggage secured and loaded, and everything was in readiness for the start for the front. We arrived in Boston about twelve o'clock, noon, where refreshments were received, and at once proceeded to New York by the Fall River Line of Steamers. Arriving in New York on the forenoon of the 26th, a short parade was made through the city. It was at this time that a beautiful silk banner was presented to the regiment by the Sons of Maine. From New York we proceeded to Washington by the way of Philadelphia and Baltimore. In Philadelphia a well provided breakfast awaited the regiment, served by the generous ladies of the Quaker City, whose hospitality some of us, who were fortunate enough to return in 1864, again enjoyed. Upon arriving at Baltimore, it was deemed prudent that every precaution should be taken against all danger, for there were rumors of intended attack upon northern soldiers as they passed through the city. Muskets were loaded and every one was ready for action in case an attack should be made. The regiment, however, marched through the city without any disturbance, and at once embarked by rail for Washington, reaching the city on the evening of June 27th, about eight o'clock P. M. We were quartered in a hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue near where the St. James hotel now stands. Nothing was too good for the soldiers in those early days of the war, as they went to the front, though this feeling of hospitality and regard was not fully sustained in later years. Perhaps the frequent sight of soldiers had a tendency to lessen the interest that was so prominently manifested at the beginning of the war.

In June 28th the regiment went into camp on Meridian Hill, about two miles from Washington. Here our first Fourth of July in service was passed. As no soldier was allowed outside the line there was more grumbling than celebrating, in camp, the sound of bells and booming of cannon being distinctly heard. On the morning of July 9th orders came for us to embark on the steamer at the foot of 7th Street for Alexandria. Here we went into camp about a mile from the city. Remaining here a day or two, we then moved a mile or more to the front, where we found the 3rd and 4th Maine Regiments in camp. It was here that our soldier life really began, for we at once began picket duty, slashing timber, building forts and digging trenches. On the 16th of July the regiment advanced toward Manassas, thence to Centreville and the Bull Run battlefield. A portion of the way we had marched was over the old Braddock road, that was built more than 150 years ago, if it can now be called a road; it was over this same way that Braddock with his British troops and young Col Washington with a few colonial soldiers pressed on to meet the French and Indians, and if history is correct I think our retreat from Bull Run was in quite as good order as theirs.

The march from Centreville to Bull Run was by the way of Sudbury Church, a long and circuitous route. Soon after leaving Centreville, it being reported that an engagement was in progress, the order "double quick" was given. The brigade hastened forward, but was too late to render much assistance.

July 21st, '61, was one of the hottest days of the year. Think of men clothed in thick woolen garments, carrying sixty pounds of accoutrements in the form of blankets, gun, ammunition, etc., making "double quick" time for six or seven miles, while the intense heat of the sun was unendurable. Hundreds of poor men fell by the wayside overcome with heat or hopelessly exhausted. Canteens were emptied, and there was no water to be had until we nearly reached Sudbury Church, when we crossed a small stream through which thousands had passed. Though the water was thick with dirt, it was eagerly drank by the thirsty men and horses, side by side. In many cases the soldiers used their shoes for dippers, having thrown away their haversacks while on the march. The scenes here witnessed made an impression upon those who participated, that will endure as long as life itself.

Rushing forward, we were soon on the Bull Run battlefield. Our brigade was composed of the 3rd and 4th Maine Regiments and 2nd Vermont, commanded by Gen. O. O. Howard. We advanced in line of battle to the foot of the hill near the Henry House. At this time many troops were falling back, including the famous Ellsworth Zouaves. The 5th Maine did as other regiments were doing, though it soon halted and again moved forward into the woods near the Henry House, and here maintained its position for some time. After several rounds of ammunition had been burned the order to cease firing and to retreat was given. It was *promptly obeyed*, as history relates, and confusion and disorder reigned.

In this battle Company "I" shed its first blood; John Shackly, one of the men from Bryant's Pond squad, was wounded severely in his foot. He was taken back to Alexandria, where he remained in the hospital for some time and was finally discharged from the service, on account of disabilities.

Levi W. Towle of Company "I" was killed at Bull Run, it is presumed, for he was never seen or heard from after the battle.

Washington B. Robinson and Charley Freeman were taken prisoners, though they returned to the company in December, 1861. The next battle in which the Bethel Company met with losses, killed in battle, was fought Sept. 14, 1862 at Crampton Pass, Maryland, this pass being the center one of several passes through the Blue Ridge mountains. This battle resulted in a brilliant and decisive victory for the Union forces. Many instances of personal bravery of members of company "I" could here be related, but it is not my purpose to go into details very much in these running sketches of war reminiscences. At Crampton Pass, three men of Company "I" were killed, John F. Bryant of West Bethel, Samuel E. Lufkin of Bryant's Pond and Oliver Fletcher of Saco. In only one other battle were there as many men of the Bethel Company killed as in this one. Of this other battle, which was fought on May 3, 1863, I will speak later.

Bryant, at the time of his enlistment, was living at West Bethel with his family, and was employed by the late Henry Ward in the manufacture of shook. He was a fine soldier. He died while nobly doing his duty, and his loss was keenly felt by surviving comrades.

Lufkin was a native of Rumford, being a member of the well known Lufkin family, men of large stature and excellent qualities. No better soldier, I believe, ever left Oxford County. He was bold, fearless, ever ready to do or die, a man of great bravery and much esteemed.

Fletcher joined the company in Portland. I therefore do not remember him as well as I do some other members, yet I remember him as taking part in the McClellan Campaign across the Peninsular, also charging the enemy up the mountain side at Crampton Pass, where he was killed facing the foe.

While visiting the battle-fields in 1886, I felt it my duty to the relatives and friends of those patriots to find their resting places on this side, and soon after entering the cemetery at Antietam, as we passed up the walk on the right of the National Monument, almost the first graves we came to were those of Bryant, Lufkin and Shaw. If this sketch meets the eye of anyone interested, they may know that their remains are now resting in one of the finest cemeteries in the land.

Passing over several battles in which the Company was engaged, the next loss sustained in killed was on that fatal third of May, 1863, a day never to be forgotten while a member of the old 5th Maine Regiment lives.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

$100 Reward $100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all of its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials.

Address. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

WOMEN'S CHIT-CHAT.

"From Grave to Gay, From Lively to Severe."

SUNDAY.

"Make Christ your most constant companion. Be more under His influence than under any other influence."

Drummond.

MONDAY.

"Who sweeps a room as for Thy laws, makes that and th' action fine."

George Herbert, 1593—1632.

TUESDAY.

"We have a debt to every great heart, to every fine genius——'Tis the fine souls who *serve* us, and not what is called fine society."

WEDNESDAY.

"Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small."

Friedrich Von Logue, 1604—1655

THURSDAY.

"It is right to be contented with what we have—but not with what we are."

FRIDAY.

"For he who feeds men serveth few,
He serves all who dares be true."

SATURDAY.

"In essentials—unity,
In non-essentials—liberty,
In all things—charity."

—o—

The Observer is a firm believer in the value and indeed absolute necessity of "revivals." She shares in the world's debt of gratitude for those which have quickened and transformed generation after generation, from those recorded in the Old and New Testaments, each one having made an epoch in the growth of civilization, even to the present day. The revival of learning called the Renaissance, though vaguely defined in history, certainly brought new light into the darkness of the Middle Ages. Luther's revival rescued true religion from the deadness and dangers of priest-craft. Wyckliffe's consecrated revival of scholarship in England, gave new life to the masses. John Knox's revival of the church universal from mere formalism, even down to our Moody and Murphy, yes, to Sam. Jones and the Salvation Army, make us all debtors to these series of world-quickenings that have given a rekindling of God's spirit to flickering faiths and fainting souls; and though we cannot always understand the methods used, that there have been and are results, may well teach us humility and trust.

—o—

Yes, we all know what can justly be said about the dangerous emotional element in so-called "revivals." We have all seen reasons to deplore the excesses which have been followed by such cruel and disappointing re-actions. We have all known cases where seeming lack of depth, or a superficial hardness have prevented any growth of character, and the lovely promise of the early bud never blossomed into a thing to gladden the world; but even then, the Observer is inclined to believe that a tiny spark still survives, upon which the Divine breath once blew; and what are we to say that it will never re-kindle, and possibly outshine less wavering tapers? And who doubts that thousands date a progressive religious life from a new direction of will caused by a wave of religious enthusiasm?

—o—

And why are we so morbidly afraid of *religious* enthusiasm? "Nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm," saith a modern prophet, and we recognize it respectfully in every department of life but where the religious element predominates.

Think what a passion of enthusiastic effort sweeps over our country every four years. Do we see ominous head-shakings and doubting frowns bestowed upon ardent advocates of principles of action during a political campaign? Each election is a monstrous revival of patriotism, and its influence extends even to the sex not qualified to vote—and to the children.

"Let the boys parade," said one of our far-seers, last fall! "Give them each a torch; we want an impression made that will bring them into our party on their twenty-first birthdays."

(N. B. They can patiently wait a dozen years for a political seed to ripen in a young mind. Suppose that we become equally patient with a religious germ!)

Speaking of the boys reminds the Observer of one of the most hopeful signs of a real, living, honest, religious life among the children of this generation. It gives one a thrill of courage to see the simple, straightforward, unembarrassed way with which a fine boy will look you in the eye and talk of the life of the spirit. Gone are those shamefaced victims who used to writhe in our childhood over the mortifying accusation of being "pious."

—o—

To recognize that one has a soul and not be ashamed of its possession is a great upward step towards the life that is eternal. Why not simply and honestly admit that the religious life is a reality, and subject to the same conditions surrounding other realities, that we need new impulses given by the same unity of action that is used to arouse other principles into more resolute life.

When we desire a great Musical Festival we give time, thought and effort towards its accomplishment. No one in such cases questions the absolute necessity of enthusiasm. Had there been none this whole state would not be responding to the influence of one man.

—o—

Therefore, the Observer proposes to make an earnest plea for enthusiasm directed towards the religious life. She asks for a "revival"

What *is* religious enthusiasm but the most direct manifestation of the Holy Spirit? And what is the chilling doubt, or sinister sneer that stands ready to smother the flame, but the nearest approach to embodied evil the human soul ever meets?

If every soul in this or any community would take time every day in which to meet Almighty God as a personal friend and to meet Him with a yielding of the whole nature in a glad, vivid, earnest enthusiasm for "the higher life," what would be the natural and sure result?

The first manifestation would appear in the heart that held the royal guest; new courage, new buoyancy of spirit, life seeming full of interests, human beings as opportunities, death a glorious vista.

—o—

Next, the home would feel the impulse of the wave of enthusiasm. There would be more careful thought for others; quicker recognition of daily needs; more tenderness in speech and manner; more generous forbearance, and a clearer vision of the angel with folded wings in the form of every dear human being.

—o—

The mothers and fathers will meet the in-coming tide and be aroused to the absolute necessity of providing their children with amusements and conditions of amusement, that the experience of the most experienced in social life have proved blameless. They will waken to a sense of the right of amuse ment that is due the young, and recogniziug the legitimate colt, lamb, kitten stage in the young human animal, will see that "early frisk" is a dominant element in good stock. They will teach, by example and precept, the difference between the amusement that makes the next day's work the more brightly performed, and recreates mind and body, and the excess of, or the quality of an amusement that brings a gloomy "next morning;" in fact, the world-wide difference between recreation and dissipation. They will learn to translate themselves back into their "teens," and by a loving imagination recall the needs of their lives at that stage, and when time and experience have proved such needs blameless and necessary, they will cordially render unselfish service for the children's pleasures, and thus by teaching the young to trust their happiness in their keeping they will also teach them to trust and to yield when the necessary word of firm denial comes.

—o—

Then the Church would receive the blessed impulse of members who not only attend church, Sunday school and prayer meetings, but hold themselves in cordial readiness to lift its burdens and share its drudgeries as well as enjoy its privileges, and who recognize the responsibility of maintaining a sweet and sunny social life, remembering always that however much of a saint one may be in one's chamber, that social life is the only real test and gauge of character.

—o—

The young people will feel the dash of the spray from the "wave." There will be those who face the fact that there is absolutely no escape from Christian responsibility as to the care over the young people of the church. Who will sacrifice time, strength, patience and *carpets* in providing safe and happy social life for the church's "little ones." Who will not bind the heavy burdens of "Thou shalt nots" upon young shoulders without rendering the cordial equivalent of "Thou shall" under eyes of experience.

The community will be sure to know that there is life more abundantly," for there will come many a suggestion for broad helpfulness in that *eager* talk with God.

People will find themselves heartily rejoiced with over some bit of good fortune, as well as sympathized with in sorrow. The sick will receive more tender attention, if no more than to pin upon the foot-board of the bed a changing series of photographs upon which weary eyes may gratefully rest. The needs of those around us will find response from this vivid atmosphere of helpful sympathy.

The garment that can be cut over by the help of skilful fingers in aid of the undeft. The carefully prepared food sent into the homes where illness is taxing the housekeeper's strength. The letter written to one in stress of sorrow or stress of joy—both craving the blessed word of sympathy.

The quick response for whatever promises a higher life to the community—be it a demand for help for our schools, our public library, or sanitation in our village. Generous recognition of those who have merited approval by doing good work, be they ministers, teachers, editors, musicians, or pupils.

—o—

Now what would be this condition of society, but a "revival of religion."

Is is a thing to be doubted or despised? We may as well distrust the power of steam as it turns the wheels of industry all over this mighty working land as to weakly doubt the wisdom of putting ourselves under the power of enthusiasm for "the higher life."

But over, and above and through it all, must dominate the solemn condition.

"O ye who love the Eternal,
See that ye hate the thing that is evil."

Another New York Letter.

In New York city there are a great many "down east" people, as they are often called. One meets them in every walk of life; while they are always friendly, they are, at the same time, the most unclannish persons in the whole world, and readily mingle with the cosmopolitan citizens of the great metropolis.

When there is a gathering of New England people it is always an agreeable one, and is certain to revive pleasant memories. Such was the event of the New Year's party given by Mrs. Stone and her daughter to their many friends, at their home, 178 W 97th St. The house was prettily decorated with ferns and flowers and a generous supply of misletoe. Progressive whist was the order of the evening and the time passed like magic. Many of the players displayed great skill in the game, and evidently more than one had "read up Hoyle" before that evening. The first ladies' prize was a very fine pin-tray, and the first gentlemen's prize was an elegant calendar. The "booby" prizes consisted of a quaint looking rabbit and a toy violin.

Refreshments were served at the close of the whist-playing, to which all gave their undivided attention.

Mrs. Chapman, well known in Bethel, favored us in her charming manner with several of her recitations.

After some very delightful music by Miss Stone the party reluctantly broke up, each one feeling that it had been not only the most social gathering of the year, but that it compared very favorably with any held in the past.

Likes the Colonel's Articles.

Norway, Me., Jan. 8, 1897.

NEWS PUBLISHING CO.,
Bethel Me.

Gentlemen:—

I am glad some one was so thoughtful as to send me a copy of the NEWS with Col. Edwards' initial article on his "War Reminiscences". I knew he had long contemplated the good work, but had begun to fear he might drop out of the ranks before accomplishing it. Please find money enclosed for your paper.

Col. C. S. Edwards is Bethel's best "war" man; he is thoroughly well known as the "Fighting Colonel of the Bloody Fifth". His character as a loyal, true citizen in war and peace, is as extensive as the borders of our state—his reputation is secure. I hope he will make his reminiscences as thorough and complete as possible. He must not forget that we all love to read of the personal experiences, the incidents of actual life, just what a soldier sees, hears, thinks and feels on the march, at the bivouac or in battle. You are fortunate in securing the Colonel's story. I shall read every number with great interest. All soldiers of the Regiment and all relatives and friends of the soldiers should secure copies, and, after a careful reading, lay them away for the coming generations.

Yours,

O. N. Bradbury.

Anyone visiting Lewiston should not fail to call upon F. E. Tainter, the popular music dealer, and see his new symphony organ. This organ is so constructed that even a child, large enough to use the pedals, can play any production from the simplest ballad to the most difficult oratorio. Mr. Tainter is very cordial and pleasant, and takes great pleasure in showing this beautiful organ to his visitors and explaining to them the philosophy of its working.

The Bethel News

Published Wednesdays by

NEWS PUBLISHING CO.,

Cole Block, - Bethel, Maine.

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TERMS OF THE NEWS.

One year to any address,	$1.25
Six months,	.65
Three months,	.35

SINGLE COPIES OF THE NEWS.

Single copies of the News are three cents each. For convenience of patrons single copies of each issue for sale at the following places:

Bethel,	Wiley's Drug Store.
South Paris,	Shurtleff's Drug Store.
Norway,	Stone's Drug Store.
Rumford Falls,	C. Clifford

Bethel, Maine, Jan. 13, 1897.

In October, 1896, Rev. R. M. Judy, an independent preacher of Davenport, Ia., preached a sermon on the saloon. Before doing so he visited every saloon in town and talked with the proprietors, asking each one what he could say in justification of the business. Only one made any defense, and he said that he had some money invested in the business and wanted to get it out.

Senator Allen's propoisiton to investigate the use of money in elections is one that should meet the approval of every upright citizen. Our elections are entirely too expensive, and the election laws limiting the expenditure of candidates for election purposes to small amounts are wise and should be enforced.

The Record states that an investigation of the causes of the large increase of crime in Chicago reveals the fact that most of the deeds took place near saloons, and many of the perpetrators were under the influence of intoxicants. The Record is not a temperance journal either. One of the causes of drinking is hard times. While there are men who are brought to poverty by strong drink, there are other men who are brought to drunkenness by poverty.

We are all of us today suffering more or less from the sins of others—from the evils engendered by the competitive system. The moral tone is lowered, political life is corrupted and leaders act from low personal motives. In many instances they are not to be relied on and intrusted with the destinies of the nation. Neither are the people in their escape from the house of bondage able to act as directing, controlling forces. They need the moral and economic training that will come to them through a co-operative system of industry, and the formation of a new social environment that will re-act upon and develop all their higher qualities, for, just as competition re-acts upon and lowers the moral tone of all, so co-operation will gradually elevate all.

BETHEL LOCALS.

J. G. Rich will stop taking rabbits until further notice.

The Ladies' Club will meet with Mrs. A. E. Herrick Thursday afternoon at 2.30.

The ladies of the Universalist society meet at the home of Col. Edwards this afternoon.

Mrs. C. D. Foster and little boy, Wilfred, are visiting at Orren Foster's in Newry for a few days.

The impurities in the blood which cause scrofulous eruptions are thoroughly eradicated by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

There will be an adjourned meeting of the trustees of the Bethel Library Association at the Library at 8.30 this evening.

The students and teachers of Gould Academy were very pleasantly entertained by Miss Purington at her home Tuesday evening.

At a business meeting of the Epworth League held last Monday evening four new names were received, three as active and one as associate members.

The W. C. T. U. held a "mothers" meeting at the home of Mrs. L. T. Barker Tuesday afternoon. A good number of the ladies manifested their interest by their presence, also in a mutual expression of thought upon the subjects of such vital interest to those who have the young to instruct and influence.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Rethel Chair Co. was held yesterday afternoon. The election of officers resulted as follows: Pres., J. H. Barrows; Sec., J. U. Purington; Asst. Sec., F. H. Young; Treas., E. C. Park; Manager, J. H. Barrows; Assist. Managers, H. C. Andrews and F. H. Young; Directors, J. H. Barrows, H. G. Brown, E. C. Rowe, E. C. Park, W. W. Hastings, and J. U. Purington, C. Bisbee.

Card of Thanks.

I wish through the columns of the NEWS to thank the friends who so kindly assisted durin gthe death and burial of my wife. The many acts of kindness will long be remembered by me. Ellis G. Annis.

Exposure to Disease

Does not necessarily mean the contraction of disease provided the system is in a vigorous condition, with the blood pure and all the organs in healthy action. When in such condition contagion is readily resisted and the disease germs can find no lodgment. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine to build up the system, because it makes pure, rich blood, and pure blood is the basis of good health. In cold weather it is especially necessary to keep up the health tone because the body is subject to greater exposure and more liable to disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the safe guard of health.

NEW MEXICO LETTER.

Mesilla Park, New Mexico.
Jan. 2, 1897.

Dear Friends:-

My last letter left me safely located for the summer with my California relatives, and I think I will quietly remain there and tell you a few things that have come to my notice and that I have participated in recently.

Last year I wrote you of the celebration of Dec. 12th as the Feast of Gadalupe, also the legend connected with the building of that noted church. I was not able to give a very clear account of the proceedings as I could not witness them; this year I was more fortunate. The celebration of this day seems to be more of an Indian custom. The vision is said to have appeared to an Indian. About two miles from the Park is a little settlement of Pueblo Indians, called the Tortugas Indians. They keep up the customs of their ancestors. The Celebration lasts three days, and on the eve of the 11th, we heard that the Indians were to dance in town, so after dusk we started out; as we drove out of the yard "Little Mountain" was a blaze of light. The Indians go out to this mountain about six miles and build fires all over the mountain. As we drove into town we found the houses illuminated with sacks of sand, having a lighted candle inside. They make very good Japanese lanterns as I think I have told you before. We went up to the Plaza, most of the crowd were in church saying prayers to the Lady of Gadalupe; those outside were making two lines in front of the central door of the church. We joined the crowd; soon the people began to pour out of the church. A party of dancers, dressed in the most grotesque costume-, formed in line and began to dance.

First I will try to tell you of their costumes. They had on pantaletes of white cloth over their pants; something white pinned in front of them. One even had a white pillow sham, embroidered in red, pinned on like an apron. On their heads they wore curious shaped hats, trimmed with tissue paper and looking glasses; some were masked. They held something in one hand shaped like a tennis racket and covered with tissue paper; in the other a gourd, which rattled as they danced. Only the men danced, with the exception of two little girls, dressed in white with crowns on their heads. They went into various figures, keeping time to the music of a violin; they danced for about fifteen minutes and then formed a procession and went to some former chief's house and danced there. They kept this up all night, I am told. The afternoon of the 12th, we were again on the field of action. We had but a few moments to wait when a procession of men, women and children came up the street and marched up in front of the church. They were dressed very differently from the others. Every one had a dab of red paint on their faces. The men wore just ordinary clothes, but the women had on all the bright colored ribbon, etc., they could find. They had on head dresses of bright ribbon coming almost to the ground. All had white aprons over their shoulders like a cape. They formed a circle, every other one a woman. The tom-tom struck up, the men outside the circle began to sing(?) and the fun began, they went round and round with their eyes fixed on the ground and keeping time with their hands. At last four stepped out and danced some kind of a figure, the others going round them; just at this moment the priest threw open the church door and said something to them; the dance ceased, and I waited anxiously to see what next. Some of the older men entered the church. The last dancers moved down the line; those of the night before formed in the ring. Soon those who had entered the church, come out bearing the picture of the Lady of Gadalupe. It was framed in a star shaped frame of dotted white muslin and tissue paper and rested on a white table or board covered with tissue flowers.

"What are they going to do now?" I asked. "Take the picture to the house of a former chief, and leave it until next year," was the reply. I decided I would join the crowd and see all there was to see, so started down the road. The Indians I had seen dance last would run on for about fifteen feet, then make a circle and go through some kind of a figure, then run on. Those I had seen dance the night before faced the picture and went backward for about fifteen feet, keeping time to music. Then they would turn, run straight ahead for about the same distance, face the picture and proceed as before.

Thus we went on amid the firing of rifles and all sorts of noises until we reached the house chosen. They carried the picture in and all the dancers followed. We waited a while for them to deposit the image and finish their prayers as I wanted to see them dance again, but it was growing late and I had to depart before their devotwere completed.

As usual, a funny thing happened to me. The marshall of the day was trying to keep the crowd back, he said something to me in Spanish, which of course I did not understand; and thereupon he proceeded to take me by the shoulders and shake me. I laughed until I almost cried, and told my friend he shook me because I did not understand Spanish.

I had intended to tell you of the bull fight I attended, but this letter it too long already, so I will keep that until the next. Extending the season's greetings to all friends,

I am as ever,
Ellen F. Gibson.

Watches! Watches!!

LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S GOLD SILVER AND NICKLE.

All Sizes and Prices.

You can save money by buying of me.

Every watch guaranteed.

All I ask is, you see my stock, get my prices, compare them both with what others offer and then buy where you can get the best bargain. I do not fear the result as I sell lower than most dealers.

Fine Repairing of all kinds.

EDWARD KING,
THE JEWELER,
BETHEL, ME.

Baker---Tootell.

At the home of Mr. Thomas Tootell of Salem, N. H., on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 30th, Miss Helena Tootell, a popular and well-known young lady in this town, was married to Mr. James H. Baker of Newry, Maine. Rev. Claudius Byrne of Lawrence, performed the ceremony in the presence of few friends and relatives. The bride was very tastefully attired in cream cashmere, with neck and bodice garniture of cream lace and ribbon. After the ceremony the guests partook of the bounteous repast prepared by the bride's parents. Music was furnished by Lawrence talent.

In the evening a reception was tendered at 46 Broadway, the home of Mr. Charles A. Baker, brother of the groom. Many friends of the couple were present to express their sincere congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker were the recipients of many presents as follows: Marbleized clock, Young Men's League; silver cake basket, 2 dessert spoons and 2 table spoons, Mrs. Copp's Sunday school class; pie knife, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hall; berry spoon, Mr. Enoch Butler; one-half dozen teaspoons, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Clark; china tea set and cake plate, from friends in the church; glass berry dish, Miss Fifield; one-half dozen silver knives and forks, from the groom's relatives; pickle jar, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Richardson; 2 fancy plates, Miss Laura Closson; butter knife, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton A. Clark; vase, Mrs. Coburn; cocoa jar, Misses Coburn and Webster; stationery, Mrs. Stephen; glass set, Mr. and Mrs. Holtham; towels, Mrs. Eliza Pulk; bedspread, Misses Sweeney and Busby; sugar shell, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Ordway; salt and pepper shakes, Miss Sadie Parker; towels, Mrs. Chas. Wilson; bed spread, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tootell; sugar shell, Mrs. Morey, parlor lamp, Otis Baker. Many other gifts were received by the bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker started Monday, Jan. 4th, for their home in Newry, Maine.

New Subscribers.

The following new subscribers to the BETHEL NEWS have been received the past week:

Chas. W. Horne,	West Milan, N.H.
Horace Cole,	Norway,
D. M. Stearns,	Etna.
W. A. Tobie,	Mechanic Falls.
Clifton Jones,	Gorham, N. H
N. A. Raynolds,	Fort Fairfield.
C. C. Baker,	Meriden, Conn.
Eli B. Bean,	Brownfield
Nathaniel Barker,	Weld.
Levi Shedd,	West Paris.
Clark Wayland,	Gorham, N. H.
Ward Sanborn,	Bethel.
I. A. Cushman,	So. Bethel.
Fred B. Howe,	East Bethel.
H. D. Blake,	"
C. H. Kimball,	"
G. K. Hastings,	"
O. N. Bradbury,	Norway.
Miss Maria Barker,	Auburndale, Mass.
Elias S. Bartlett,	Framingham, "
Oswald & Armstrong,	Lewiston.
E. E. Howard,	Lewiston.
M. C. Wentworth,	Jackson, N. H.
Mrs. J. M. Edwards,	Portland.

THE TOWNS AROUND.

SUNDAY RIVER.

Will. Williamson recently took a trip to Conway, N. H.

David Fleet has stopped yarding birch until there is more snow.

Fred S. Jackson of Lawrence, Mass., is visiting his old home.

Marshall Swain has commenced a logging job in Riley Plantation.

Schools in this place closed last week; both were successful terms.

Mrs. C. D. Bean, who has been sick for some time, is slowly recovering.

Little Lillian Bean had a fine doll for an X-mas present from Miss Anna Bateman of Boston, Mass.

Miss Ethel Bennett of Magalloway, is spending a few weeks with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Sargent.

GREENWOOD.

Mr. J. F. Emmons and family visited at J. R. Foster's Sunday.

Mr. F. F. Willis has commenced to saw lumber at his mill.

Mr. Wm. Woodis is pretty badly off with a cold, dropsy, etc.

J. C. F. Roberts sent to Norway the other day and got two tons of meal, paying 57 cts. per bag.

We now have a fish peddler here once a week, which makes a pleasant change of diet from baked beans to fish and oysters.

We noticed several teams coming in with bleeding limbs, caused by slipping on the icy roads. It seems almost wicked to punish dumb brutes in that way.

Mr. F. R. Foster and neighbors sent a car of apples to London some time ago, the returns were 50½ cts. per bbl., and the firm has failed that sent them, with no prospect of immediate settlement.

One of the most remarkable cures of rheumatism on record is related by Mr. J. M. Thompson, post master at Decker's Point, Pa., as follows: "While out driving one day last winter I was caught in a cold rain. The next morning I was unable to move my head or arms, owing to an attack of inflammatory rheumatism. My clerk telephoned for a physician, but suggested that I use Chamberlain's Pain Balm, there being a bottle open on the counter. He rubbed the affected parts thoroughly with Pain Balm and built up a hot fire. I dozed off to sleep and when I awoke about half an hour later the pain had gone entirely, and I have not been troubled since. People come here from many miles around to buy Chamberlain's medicines." For sale by G. R. Wiley, Bethel, and G. O. Jones, Bryant's Pond.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Important Annual Meeting to be Held at State House, Jan. 20 and 21.

The annual meeting of the Maine board of agriculture which occurs on the 20th and 21st of January will be a meeting of more than usual interest. The organization of the board will occur on the morning of the first day and then the regular programme of the meeting will begin. This will consist of the report of the secretary and executive committee, which will be followed by general discussions.

Among the subjects of importance to be discussed will be the matter of legislation looking toward the better protection of the farmer from impure grass seeds, and the inspection of commercial feeding stuffs.

There will be half rates over the Maine Central railroad from all stations for all who attend these meetings. Tickets to be sold the 19th and 20th good to return until the 23d.

Can't Eat

This is the complaint of thousands at this season. They have no appetite; food does not relish. They need the toning up of the stomach and digestive organs, which a course of Hood's Sarsaparilla will give them. It also purifies and enriches the blood, cures that distress after eating and internal misery only a dyspeptic can know, creates an appetite, overcomes that tired feeling and builds up and sustains the whole physical system. It so promptly and efficiently relieves dyspeptic symptoms and cures nervous headaches, that it seems to have almost "a magic touch."

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c.

Notice!

This is to give notice that I have purchased the meat business of D. D. Matheson of Bethel and shall continue at the old stand.

I shall constantly keep on hand a good supply of

FRESH MEAT,
FISH, . . .
OYSTERS, ETC.

And shall be ready to serve Mr. Matheson's old customers at all times.

Shall run cart every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

....JOHN YATES,
32tf Bethel, Me.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C. for their $1,800 prize offer and new list of one thousand inventions wanted.

Children's Column.

Conducted by Lena B. Ellingwood.

We are pleased to receive contributions of all sorts, letters, stories, poems, etc., for this department, and all communications should be addressed to Mrs. A. D. Ellingwood, Bethel, Me.

His Brother's Fate.

BY LENA B. ELLINGWOOD.

A pig, with anxious, troubled face,
Came wand'ring through the market-place.
First one way, then the other,
He turned his face to look. "Ah, me!
If I could only, only see
My lost, my much loved brother."
He stopped before a cooing brood
Of pretty doves in search of food
"Oh, tell me, gentle creatures,
If you have seen my brother dear,
With curling tail, and well-poised ear,
And fine, symmetric features.
"For he is gone, and I am left
Alone; of all my kin bereft.
While I was calmly sleeping
He disappeared the other morn;
I know not where he can have gone.
My eyes are dim with weeping."
They did not know, nor did the horse,
Whom next he told about his loss;
And when he asked a pussy,
With terror wild her green eyes lit,
She arched her back, "he cried "ss-s-s-shut!"
Her tail grew large and bushy. Across
He asked a little maid, but she
Was frightened, too, and quick did flee
Unto her loving mother.
He saw a bird up in a tree.
"Oh, robin, kindly tell to me
If you have seen my brother."
"I think I have," the robin said
The pig upraised his drooping head,
With eagerness did tremble.
"I saw one day that farmer Brown
Was driving briskly through the town.
A pig you much resemble."
That morning, little Bobby Brown
Upon the doorstep sat him down,
And in one hand, well toasted,
And thickly buttered, held a slice
Of bread; and in the other, nice
White pork, all freshly roasted.
And as he ate, a pig he spied,
Who trotted quickly to his side,
And said, "Oh, do you know
If my poor brother has been here?
For he has gone away, my dear,
And bitter is my woe."
"No," Bobby said; "I do not know,
Unless—perhaps—it *may* be so—"
With different feelings, quite,
He eyed the lunch within his hand,
His mother with such care had planned,
And sickened at the sight.
The pig looked, too; and in his eyes
There came a look of grieved surprise;
His sobs he could not smother.
"Alack-a-day, and woe is me!
For I can clearly, plainly see
You're eating up my brother!"

N. Newry, Dec. 5, 1896.

Dear Editor:-

I am a boy twelve years old. My father came from Aroostook county when I was four years old. My brother takes the BETHEL NEWS. I like to read the children's letters very much.

My father is hauling spruce. He has two horses; their names are Kate and Gene. He has two colts; their names are Custer and Gloster. I have four brothers; their names are Frank, John, Leroy and Walter, and two sisters, Nettie and Amy.

For pets I have a dog, his name is Rover, and two cats. I will end with a riddle. "What has eyes and sees not?"

T. Fitz-Maurice Vail.

We think the answer to the riddle must be potatoes; if anyone has a better idea, let us hear from them. Ed.

Everett, Mass., Jan. 10, 1897.

To the Editor of the NEWS.

I received the pen which you sent me a few days ago. I think it is a fine one, and I am using it in answering this letter. Besides, it is just what I have wanted for a long time, and I can assure you that since I received the NEWS I have waited impatiently for it's arrival, I was so anxious to see it. Miss Hall, who taught at Gould Academy, Bethel, Maine, for three years, and Miss Elder of Portland, Maine, happened to be at my house when I received the pen, and both said they thought it a very fine one. I will try and deserve it by doing as you desired in using it for the Children's Column. Thanking you very, very much I remain

Yours truly,
Mabel P. Foster.

STATE NEWS.

It is said that in Arabia, even at the present day, dried locusts strung on strings as dried apples are treated in this country, are for sale as an article of food.

The first week of the year shows a suicide and nearly a murder. In the town of Clinton on Monday, Jan. 4, John L. Webber shot his wife and then killed himself. The cause was jealousy. The couple have had several separations, the wife recently leaving home, taking her three little girls with her. On Monday evening the husband and father called on his wife, and in the presence of the children shot his wife. It is not a common thing for a person who has received three shots in a vital part of the body to recover from the injuries, but at the present time the doctors think there is more than an even chance for Mrs. Webber's recovery as she is comfortable and doing nicely.

More Curative Power

Is contained in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any other similar preparation. It costs the proprietor more. It costs the jobber more and is worth more to the consumer. It has a record of cures unknown to any other preparation. It is the best to buy, because it is the One True Blood Purifier.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best family cathartic and liver medicines. Gentle, reliable, sure.

WHO IS THE MOST POPULAR TEACHER IN OXFORD COUNTY?

EVERYBODY WILL BE ANXIOUS TO KNOW.

The Publishers of the Bethel News are Going to Give the People a Chance to Decide.

FOLLOWING IS THE PLAN.

Votes can be cast for any teacher wherever they may reside, if he or she is now or has been teaching in this county during 1896.

Every issue of the NEWS from now until Feb. 1st, 1897 will contain one vote, which can be filled out by any one for any teacher in the County and sent into the NEWS office. Extra papers will be on sale at the NEWS office, G. R. Wiley's drug store and at Miss L. C. Hall's in Bethel, also at Stone's drug store, Norway, Shurtleff's drug store, South Paris, and at C. A. Clifford's, Rumford Falls.

A new yearly subscription to the NEWS, whether brought in by the teachers themselves or by some friend, will count 52 votes. A 6 months subscription will count 26 votes, and a 3 months subscription 13 votes.

25 votes will also be allowed for every dollar's worth of job printing actually obtained by any teacher or friend and brought to this office.

THE PRIZE.

The teacher who on or before Feb. 1st, 1897, receives the greatest number of votes will be presented with a copy of Webster's International Dictionary. This is a new book from cover to cover. A complete revision of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, the name of which is familiar to every teacher in America.

A library in itself.

In addition to the Dictionary of words, with their pronunciation, spelling, etymology, etc., there is a valuable appendix comprising a pronouncing gazetteer of the world; vocabularies of Scriptural, Greek, Latin, and English proper names. A dictionary of the noted names of fiction; a brief history of the English language; a dictionary of foreign quotations

A biographical dictionary with 10,000 names; a classified selection of illustrations (filling 82 pages) etc.

The work of revision occupied over 10 years, more than 100 editors being employed, and over $300,000 expended before the first copy was printed.

The price of this book is $14.00 and it is unquestionably the greatest work of the kind produced.

VOTE.

ONE VOTE FOR.....

TOWN.....

MOST POPULAR TEACHER IN THE COUNTY.

NOTE.—Votes may be cast for any Lady or Gentleman who is now teaching in Oxford County.

Votes Received to Date.

Miss Lillian R. Kimball,	847
Miss Alice Purington, Bethel,	791
Maud Bartlett, Albany,	421
Miss Ethel Hammon,	402
J. S. Hutchins, South Bethel,	281
T. S. Hutchins, Bethel,	135
Miss Sadie Abbott, Bethel,	112
F. W. Flood, Bethel,	65
Alice M. Russell, Bethel,	54
Bertha Wiley, Bethel,	53
Arthur G. Wiley, Norway,	25
Augusta H. French, Norway,	5

Miss Lillian Kimball leads again this week. Remember the contest closes Feb. 1st. Have your votes in on time.

Remember a new subscriber counts 52 votes if for a year.

We give a copy of the NEW YORK TRIBUNE or the TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE free to every new subscriber who asks for it.

Anyone who already takes the NEWS can have their votes credited by paying up to date and a full year in advance.

BIRTHS.

In South Paris, Jan. 4, to the wife of George W. Berry, a daughter.

In North Norway, Jan. 1, to the wife of Henry L. Farrington, twin daughters.

In Norway, Jan. 3, to the wife of Percy H. Nevers, a daughter (Madeline Rose).

In Albany, Dec., to the wife of Lincoln Cummings, twin sons.

In Albany, Dec. 13, to the wife of Fred Skinner, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

In Norway, Jan. 1, by Rev. W. B. Eldridge, Ephraim L. Jordan, and Mrs. Mary O. Randall, both of Norway.

In Bryant's Pond, Jan. 1, by Alden Chase, Esq., Albert W. Farnum and Flora E. Buck, both of Woodstock.

In Bryant's Pond, Jan. 4, by Rev. F. E. Barton, William R. Rosebrook of Brighton, Vt., and Mrs. Mary O. Tabor of Bryant's Pond.

In Norway, Jan. 2, by Rev. B. S. Rideout, Fred D. Knightly and Alice L. Merrill, both of Waterford.

In Fryeburg, Dec. 23, by Rev. B. N. Stone, George A. Trumbull of Denmark and Minnie B. Bartlett of Brownfield.

DEATHS.

In South Paris, Jan. 11, Ida M., wife of Frank A. Taylor, aged 32 years.

In Bethel, Jan. 4, Mrs. Grace Stearns, wife of Ellis Annis.

In Norway, Jan. 3, Rupert Stevens, aged 18 years.

BLUE STORE.

Semi-Annual Mark Down Sale!

SUITS	for $3.50	and $4.50,	worth	$5.00 and $6.00.
SUITS	for 5.00		"	7.50
SUITS	for 7.50		"	10.00
OVERCOATS	for $5,00		"	7.50
OVERCOATS	for 7.00		"	10.00
OVERCOATS	for 9.00		"	12,00
ULSTERS	for $4.00		"	5.00
ULSTERS	for 5.00		"	7.50
ULSTERS	for 7.00		"	10.00
ULSTERS	for 8.50		"	12.00

FUR COATS and REEFERS at cost.

ODD PANTS, BOYS' and YOUTHS' SUITS, very low prices to close them out.

UNDERWEAR and OVERSHIRTS all marked down to the lowest point.

REDUCTION in our Custom Tailoring to close our Woolens and Worsteds.

Now Is the Time To Save Money. Come and See Us.

BLUE STORE, NORWAY, ME.
Noyes & Andrews, Props.

Howard. THE FOTOGRAPHER.

124 LISBON STREET, - - LEWISTON, MAINE.

THE largest and best appointed Studio in New England, (This is not bluff). HOWARD is a Boston Photographer. A REBATE of 25 per cent on sittings from your city.

HOLIDAY GOODS!

HANDKERCHIEFS,

A larger and better assortment than ever before. Also a choice line of

SOUVENIR SPOONS & STICK PINS.

Customers will do well to examine our goods before purchasing elsewhere.

E. E. BURNHAM,
DEALER IN Millinery & Fancy Goods
COLE BLOCK. BETHEL.

Store closed Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

A Mistake!

You will certinaly make a mistake it you buy another HORSE BLANKET or Sleigh Robe without first coming to my shop and getting my prices.

I have a full line of

LESURE'S HORSE REMEDIES

which are everywhere acknowledged the best in the market.

Don't fail to try my

Gall Cure. . . .

You can work the horse and cure the sore at the same time. Sample Free.

YOUNG'S HARNESS STORE, Bethel.

Burial Caskets. . . .

Cloth Covered and Polished, at low prices for first quality of goods; also Metallic Caskets in adult sizes. Embalming done and Embalming Fluid for sale.

N. B.—A good Hearse will be furnished, and funerals attended at short notice We carry a good assortment of . . .

Furniture

In all the various kinds, which will be sold at satisfactory prices. Also *Carpeting and Curtain Fixtures; Baby Carriages, Children's Wagons and Carts, Spring Beds and Mattresses.*

Pictures Framed to order at short notice and Glass furnished for pictures.

Mirrors

And Mirror Plates for Old Frames.

Furniture of all kinds promptly repaired. Perforated Chair Seats for old frames.

E. B. GODDARD,
BETHEL, ME.
Opposite M. E. Church.

$1800.00 GIVEN AWAY TO INVENTORS.

$150.00 every month given away to any one who applies through us for the most meritorious patent during the month preceding.

We secure the **best patents for our clients,** and the object of this offer is to encourage inventors to keep track of their bright ideas. At the same time we wish to impress upon the public the fact that

IT'S THE SIMPLE, TRIVIAL INVENTIONS THAT YIELD FORTUNES,

such as the "car-window" which can be easily slid up and down without breaking the passenger's back, "sauce-pan," "collar-button," "nut-lock," "bottle-stopper," and a thousand other little things that most any one can find a way of improving; and these simple inventions are the ones that bring largest returns to the author. Try to think of something to invent.

IT IS NOT SO HARD AS IT SEEMS.

Patents taken out through us receive special notice in the "National Recorder," published at Washington, D. C., which is the best newspaper published in America in the interests of inventors. We furnish a year's subscription to this journal, free of cost, to all our clients. We also advertise, free of cost, the invention each month which wins our $250 prize, and hundreds of thousands of copies of the "National Recorder," containing a sketch of the winner, and a description of his invention, will be scattered throughout the United States among capitalists and manufacturers, thus bringing to their attention the merits of the invention.

All communications regarded strictly confidential. Address

JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO.,
Solicitors of American and Foreign Patents,
618 F Street, N. W.,
Box 385. Washington, D. C.

Reference—editor of this paper. Write for our 50-page pamphlet, FREE.

MESSENGER'S NOTICE.

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF OXFORD COUNTY.
STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD, ss:—Jan. 4th, A. D. 1897.

This is to give notice, that on the 2nd day of January, A. D. 1897, a warrant in Insolvency was issued out of the Court of Insolvency for said County of Oxford, against the estate of

BENJAMIN R. HOWARD of Norway, adjudged to be an Insolvent Debtor, on petition of said Debtor, which petition was filed on the 2nd day of January, A. D. 1897, to which last named date interest on claims is to be computed; that the payment of any debts and the delivery and transfer of any property belonging to said debtor, to him or for his use, and the delivery and transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the Creditors of said Debtor, to prove their debts and choose one or more Assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Insolvency, to be holden at Paris in said County, on the 20th day of January, A. D. 1897, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

Given under my hand the date first above written.

CHANDLER GARLAND, Deputy Sheriff, as Messenger to the Court of Insolvency, for said County of Oxford. 3w32.

SPINAL weakness easily cured by Dr. Miles' Nerve Plasters.

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worth $5.00 and $6.00.
" 7.50
" 10.00
" 7.50
" 10.00
" 12.00
" 5.00
" 7.50
" 10.00
" 12.00

ITS, very low prices to
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close our Woolens and

Come and See Us.
WAY, ME.

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EWISTON, MAINE.
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SSENGER'S NOTICE.
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transfer of any property be-
said debtor, to him or for
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ten o'clock in the forenoon
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GARLAND, Deputy Sheriff,
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nty of Oxford. 3w32

AL weakness easily cured by
Dr. Miles' Nerve Plasters.

C. L. DAVIS,
General Trucking and Dealer in
COAL, ICE, &c.

Trucking of every kind promptly attended to. Orders to be left at house.

O. L. DAVIS,
MAIN STREET, - - BETHEL, MAINE

TAUGHT TO DO BY DOING
GRAY'S PORTLAND BUSINESS COLLEGE
SHORTHAND & TYPEWRITING SCHOOL
OFFICE PRACTICE FROM THE START.
Dry Theory Discarded. Send for Free Catalogue.
L. A. GRAY & SON. Portland. Me.

BUSINESS
Education.
Actual business by mail and common carrier at
The Shaw BUSINESS AND SHORTHAND College
PORTLAND and Augusta, Me.
F. L. SHAW, PRINCIPAL. - PORTLAND.

A. S. Kimball.
M. L. Kimball.
KIMBALL & SON,
Attorneys at Law,
NORWAY, - - MAINE.
All business will receive prompt and careful attention.

Lovejoy House,
W. F. Lovejoy & Son, Pro'ps,
BETHEL HILL, - - - MAINE.
This popular house has been repaired since last season, the stable and outer buildings have been moved to the rear of the house, thus leaving the view of the Mountains unobstructed. Parties wanting a quiet summer home will find this one of the most desirable places in the Mountain region.

E. E. WHITNEY & Co.,
BETHEL ME.
Marble & Granite
Workers.
Chaste Designs,
First-Class workmanship.
Letters of inquiry promptly answered. See our work.
Get our prices.
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
E. E. WHITNEY & CO.

WE CARRY
A Full Line Of
Flour, Groceries, Grain, Feed, Etc.
Our Stock is always Fresh and up to date. If you want fair treatment, call on us for your supplies.
WOODBURY & PURINGTON,
Near R. R. Station.

YOU CAN NOT
do better than to buy your
GROCERIES,
FRUIT,
CONFECTIONERY,
CANNED GOODS,
TOBACCO, CIGARS, ETC.
Of R. E. L. Farwell,
72 MAIN ST., BETHEL, MAINE.
Best Prices Paid for Eggs in Exchange for Goods.

TRUE'S
PIN WORM
ELIXIR
Best for Children

LIFE, FIRE
& ACCIDENT
Insurance
placed in reliable companies.
Rates as low as can be made anywhere by
Safe and
Square Dealing
Companies.
ALL LOSSES
Promptly Settled!
Call on or address,
S. N. BUCK,
CROSS BLOCK.
BETHEL, MAINE

Notice!
Notice is hereby given that EVAN S. KILGORE has notified the Bethel Savings Bank in writing that he has lost his deposit book No. 125 issued by said bank and that he desires a duplicate book issued to him.
A. E. HERRICK,
Treas. Bethel Savings Bank.
Bethel, Me., Dec. 15, 1896. 3w33

The County News.

SHORT PARAGRAPHS Collected by our Local Correspondents, for the BETHEL NEWS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

You are earnestly requested to send us the news from your locality every week. If you get out of stationery drop us a line.

In every town where we have not already got a correspondent we would like to make arrangements with some person to furnish us with items. Write us.

WEST BETHEL.

Frost and thaw,
Snow, rain, hail,
Balmy, raw,
Calm, and gale.
O, blessed climate! what can match
our January weather,
When spring and summer, autumn,
winter all appear together!
No other climate in the world so many
changes grants;
He's hard to suit who can't find all the
weather here he wants.

The mill is running steadily, giving employment to a number of men.

Bean's heavy team horses are having a rest while waiting for snow.

Work on the meeting house moves slowly along. The roof is now being painted.

The January thaw did no damage to the ice bridge across the Androscoggin and wagons cross the river every day.

Let it be borne in mind by all the religious people of this vicinity that Rev. Mr. Wheeler is to preach in the school house in this village next Sunday afternoon, Jan. 17th, at two o'clock, and if there should not be sufficient seats for all who attend, chairs will be furnished.

NORTHWEST BETHEL.

Mrs. Sally Bennett is in Portland visiting relatives.

There is a new baby girl up at Howard Chapman's.

Dana Hall and daughter, Winnie, were at this place Sunday.

Charlie Abbott was over on this side of the river last Monday.

Fred Chapman's brother, George, came up from Andover to see him recently.

Herman Bennett went to Gorham, N. H., last week to take his brother, S. S. Bennett's, team to him.

The long hill is in a dangerous condition for the traveling people. Seth Mason and Fred Chapman worked half a day with two horses hauling sand to put on it. The spring midway in it is a source of much danger, and unless the townsmen take some steps towards having it properly fixed there is quite a chance for the town to pay heavy bills. The people up this way don't ask for the whole earth, nor even electric lights, but they would be glad if some provision could be made whereby that hill could be made less troublesome and in a more passable condition.

NEWRY.

It snowed some Sunday.

M. L. Thurston was at home a few days last week.

Mrs. George Spinney has been away visiting.

The weather still continues the same; no sleighing.

GROVER HILL.

T. L. Mabury has purchased a Glenwood range.

Pine Finch are quite numerous about here this winter.

Will Hutchinson recently traded horses with Mr. Whitney.

Miss Maude Ava Bartlett closes her school this week, we learn.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hutchinson are moving into one of Ira Jordan's rents.

Misses Marion Bennett and Winifred Brown have closed their schools and returned home.

Mrs. E. R. Whitman of Worcester, Mass., is visiting relatives and friends in town this week.

Quite a number from this place attended a party at Milford Brown's in Albany Tuesday evening.

Josie Whitman of Manchester, N. H., sent her little daughter, Alta, a lovely doll a short time since.

Mrs. Ella F. Lyon was the recipient of a lovely bouquet of pinks Christmas from a sister in Auburn.

MASON.

Sabra Mills has returned to Lewiston to work.

Dana Philbrook of Bethel was in town Saturday.

H. Hutchinson sold a cow to Leon Taylor Monday.

Mrs. J. H. Bean is stopping at F. L. Bean's for a few days.

George Bennett jammed his foot quite badly one day this week.

E. H. Morrill sold a cow to John Lord of Albany this week.

Archie Hutchinson bought a cow of John Hapgood this week.

Fred Ordway was in town and bought a cow of N. Scribner last Monday.

Kremis, Mercer County Pa. We believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be the best remedy in use. We use it in our own families, and it is a favorite among our customers. HECKER BROS. & Co. 25 and 50 cent bottles for by G. R. Wiley, Bethel, G. O. Jones, Bryant's Pond.

MIDDLE INTERVALE.

A very interesting entertainment was given New Year's night at Mr. Frank Russells. The well conducted exercises by Mrs. Russell interspersed by instrumental music by Mrs. Burgess made it an enjoyable occasion for all appreciative ones. A picnic supper was served and everything passed off pleasantly; even little Prince took a part, and it was well rendered as the host and hostess can testify.

The funeral of Mrs. Ellis Annis took place at the church here Jan. 6th, Rev. A. Hamilton, pastor of the M. E. church, officiated. His words were well chosen and appropriate for the occasion, and the living will do well to take heed. The almost fatal disease la grippe took a strong hold on her frail system, and a second attack brought her so low she did not rally and died only 27 years of age, leaving a young husband and little son to mourn her early death. God comfort the lonely husband and motherless boy.

Have you spoken words of comfort
To the sad ones on life's way.
O the need of kind words spoken,
To the weary, while you may,
Jesus, Master, come and help us,
As we journey day by day.
Help us follow in thy footsteps
Follow Thee, the Life, the Way.
While on earth, a true example,
None like Thine was ever known.
If on earth to-day we know
Thou would'st cheer the sad and lone.
If we help a fallen brother
As our Saviour did while here,
If we wash the weary feet,
Lovingly He standeth near.
If on life's toilsome journey ever,
You would His disciple be;
Surely you will hear these words,
"Ye have done it unto me."

LOVELL CENTRE.

Mrs. Mary Coffin remaines about the same.

Vernice and John Harriman visited at their home Sunday.

The Kezer Valley I. O. O. F. installed their officers the 2nd.

O. Macallister was kicked in the stomach quite badly by his colt.

School in district No. 12 is in session under the management of Fred Brown.

Stearns and Andrews have commenced cutting their pine on the John McDaniel's lot.

The Parker Post No. 51 installed its officers the 2nd and invited Gov. L. M. Stearns, Camp, S. of U., to come in and partake of a fine oyster stew.

GRAFTON.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Pratt went to Waterford Christmas.

E. I. Brown of Rumford Falls was in town last week.

V. D. Lowe and S. P. Davis brought home a deer last week.

The Ladies' Sewing Circle met with Mrs. A. W. Farrar, Friday.

Very warm weather the past week, and the snow is nearly gone.

Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Lowe of Randolph, N. H., started for Bethel Monday on their way home.

NORWAY.

S. N. Buck of Bethel was in town recently on insurance business.

Stearns & Norseworthy's orchestra of six pieces played at a Masonic ball at Waterford Tuesday evening.

The shoe cutters are indebted to the genial tax collector, Geo. Cole, for a barrel of fine apples recently put in the room for their benefit.

The shoe factory will soon be run by electrical power as the motors are in place and ready for connection to the new, dynamo at Steep Falls. The boilers now used for power will be run only for the steam heating plant in cold weather.

Much interest is being shown in the GLOBE voting contest as Mr. A. G. Wiley of the High School is among the leading names from this state. Charles Lawrence, the coupon collector, is a young boy, but hustles for his man, wishing to send him to Washington in March if possible.

The week of prayer was observed by the churches with services as follows: Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in the Baptist church, Thursday and Friday evenings in the Methodist. The meetings are continued into this week at the Congregational chapel. The attendance has been unusually large during the series.

MARSHALL HILL.

Mr. Isaiah Hazeltine is busy cutting his year's supply of wood.

Mr. Caleb Hazeltine made a pleasant call at Geo. Briggs' Thursday of last week.

Mr. Fred Hazeltine had his sleigh painted and upholstered, which is a great improvement in his business.

Mr. J. H. Briggs jammed his right foot badly helping his son, George, saw logs in the woods. One log dropped about two feet, striking his foot, which rested on another log, breaking his big toe and jamming his foot so that he is unable to step on it.

"GREATEST ON EARTH."
Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine.

Mr. R. T. Caldwell, is book-keeper in the First National Bank of Fulton, Ky. "I was completely run down. My nerves became so unstrung through loss of sleep and worry that I felt sure I would be compelled to give up my position. I would lie awake all night long, and it took but little

R. T. CALDWELL.

to shake me up so that I could not possibly attend to my business as I should. In connection with this I had *liver trouble*, heaviness about the stomach, and pains in different parts of my body. I was also much reduced in flesh. I was persuaded to try

Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine.

I first procured a trial bottle from a local druggist and good results quickly followed. I then procured a dollar bottle, and by the time I had used this up I was a different man. I am now on my third bottle and am able to sleep soundly and eat regularly, something I could not possibly do before taking your *Nervine*. I am now *fully recovered*, and do not hesitate to pronounce Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine the *greatest nervine on earth*."
Fulton, Ky. R. T. CALDWELL.

Dr. Miles' Nervine is sold on a positive guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. All druggists sell it at $1, 6 bottles, for $5, or it will be sent, prepaid, on receipt of price by the Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

Dr. Miles' Nervine Restores Health

DENMARK.

Mrs. A. H. Witham, who has been sick so long, seems to be growing worse.

Our people are waiting anxiously for snow to haul lumber and get up their wood.

Mrs. Julia Shorey of Boston, came to town last week and is stopping with her sister, Mrs. Jones.

The Odd Fellows had a public installation and a free supper Jan. 5th, and a grand time was enjoyed.

Mrs. Emma Frost of Sebago, was at Mr. Witham's last week. Her son, Maynard, will stop with A. H. Witham to do chores and attend the High school.

Mr. John Roberts is moving his store goods from the Horace Blake place to the store of Wallace Richardson, and is moving his furniture to the farm buildings of his brother who died last fall near Ezra Davis', on "Poplar Hill."

Rev. Mr. Sargent was called Sunday afternoon to attend the funeral of Frank Sanborn, son of Abel Sanborn, at East Fryeburg, who died in Boston where he was in business, and was brought to his father's the last of the week.

NORTH WATERFORD.

Kneeland Bros. have built a shop in Happy Valley, where they do all kinds of repairing, boots and shoes, harness oiled for seventy-five cents and repaired at reasonable rates; they also file saws. They are live men and first-class workmen, and are bound to succeed. Give them a call.

I have not much to write about unless I refer to the railroad enterprise, which is the absorbing question. The route has been surveyed and they are now taking the elevation. The matter will soon be brought before the towns to see if they will vote to raise a certain sum of money and thus take stock in the road. It is claimed that this is a safe investment. I learn from good authority that it will take two hundred thousand dollars to build and equip the road.

EAST STONEHAM.

Mellen Bartlett has cut one of his feet, we hear.

There is not much news in this part of the town.

Capt. T. S. Hutchins has moved his family to Bethel Hill.

The people here are anxiously looking for snow. Horses and oxen have shoes sharpened about every day if used much. Very slippery in the road.

We understand that some of Mr. Bartletts men came out of the woods there being no snow to haul timber.

The past week meetings have been held at the church. Considerable interest was manifested.

One of Maurice Bicknell's cows has a bunch on her jaw, which is supposed to be caused, in the first place, by some injury or blow.

Fred Small, Leslie McAllister, Curtis Bickford, John Grover and Ed. Spears have been working for A. S. Bean of West Bethel, the past two weeks.

John Russell has received the sad intelligence of the death of his son, Charles Russell, who died in Portland of typhoid fever. He had been in Portland some years, was an industrious and worthy young man about twenty years of age, and his sudden death is a severe blow to his good father.

Last fall apples being plenty, and of good quality, lots of them were marketed. Jonah Bartlett sent over one hundred barrels of choice picked apples to England, and a few days since received the very astonishing intelligence that he was indebted for the repacking, transportation, etc., about thirty dollars. He failed to see by what hokus pokus process this could be. After furnishing his barrels, giving the apples, and hiring a man to pack them and a team to haul them to Norway, he thought it a little steep to have to pay for them besides. He would have been better off to have fed them to his stock, or given them away even on the trees. Curious circumstances.

BERLIN, N. H.

Poor sledding now.

There are a few cases of measle in town.

The C. and M. bridge has been repaired where broken last fall.

The roller skating rink is being quite well attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Waters were down from Stratford last week.

The referee has not handed in his decision in the Kingsbury—Milan case.

A petition has been circulated among the merchants to close the stores four evenings a week.

Quite a number of our citizens are looking for the position of post master; no one has found it yet.

There will probably be no horse racing here this winter as all failed to appear at the prescribed time except Fred Tapley and he has had another party with him.

The second number of the lecture course took place in the Opera House last Wednesday. It was the Macey—Rogers' combination. Mr. Rogers as harpist and Mr. Macey as humorist. It was quite well attended. The next number will be Thursday next.

Next Saturday in Clement Opera House "The Prisoner of Zenda" will be given. This is one of the strongest dramas that has ever been played. It is taken from Anthony Hope's novel. Mr. Clement has been at great expense in getting this company here, and the public should appreciate it by giving them a good house, as they are deserving of it.

GILEAD.

Bert Murray smiles at the word "papa" now-a-days.

W. E. Ladd's father and mother from Coaticook are stopping a while with him this winter.

Keizer Cole and wife have returned to town. He is cutting wood for the mill now.

Jackson, from Shelburne, intends making a weekly visit through this section with fresh fish, oysters, etc.

Mrs. Gammon is putting in her supply of ice.

J. W. Bennett is patiently waiting for the river to freeze, suitable to move several houses from Shelburne to this place.

Robert Bennett has been on the sick list, but is now better.

Geo. Richardson is patiently waiting the return of his wife. She has been having diphtheria at Bethel.

CANTON POINT

B. B. Daily has been carpentering for C. Farnum.

Where is our snow? We want some very much.

A. K. Foster and son are at work on the new bridge.

B. C. Waite and C. M. Packard have got in their ice.

The first log train run on the new railroad, Dec. 23rd.

Mrs. C. M. Holland is in rather poor health at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Putnum of North Fryeburg are visiting at I. A. Ellis'.

Anyone in want of a fine horse would do well to call on J. H. Daily.

Jasper Barker and W. Magner are sawing ice for B. C. Waite and others.

Our trader, C. M. Packard, was out of town on a business matter one day last week.

Mr. Bumpus has bought the standing pine lumber of I. A. Ellis and son, and is cutting the same.

The ladies' circle met with Mrs. J. H. Daily. There was a good turnout, some twenty-two in all.

The dance at Union hall Jan. 2nd was well attended. Forty-five couples were present and all had a good time.

The new bridge is nearly completed; it will be opened for public travel Jan. 6th, at ten A. M. It is a fine one.

Evening exercises at the Christmas tree at Union hall were as follows:—

Address and Prayer, Henry McCallister.
Music, Children.
Reading, Lena M. Packard.
Song, Homer Rowe, Ivis and Harold Hodge.
Reading, Alice Bashan.
Tableau, Evening Prayer.
Reading, Miss Blackwell.
Music and Song, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ludden.
Song, Master Harry Packard.
Reading, Lavis Magner.
Tableau, Simply to Thy Cross I Clirg.
Song, Winifred Foster, and Stubbs Sisters.
Tableau, Star of Bethlehem.

Next in came Santa Claus making fun for the children and some of the older ones as well. He made a good speech and brought the good boys and girls some pretty presents with which they were very much pleased. Mrs. B. C. Waite was presented with a very nice rocker by the ladies' circle and Mr. Richard McCallister, with a fur coat by the members of the family. Mr. E. H. Johnson received many useful presents. Mr. A. Delano received a good supply of cookies as a reward for his faithful attendance at Sunday-school.

25 Envelopes for Five cents.
We are selling a good quality Envelope, any style or size at the NEWS office for only 5 cents per bunch. 75 cents for 500.

MILAN, N. H.

J. T. Vincent has gone to Concord.

E. W. Evans was in town over Sunday.

E. F. Barrows and wife have returned from their visit to Maine.

Helen C. Evans has returned to her studies at Abbot's Seminary, Andover, Mass.

On Monday eve Jan. 11, Rev. Mr. Land will give a lecture entitled "Reminiscences of the War."

About 175 people attended the public installation of officers at Emily Flint Rebekah Lodge last Saturday night. A fine supper and a fine time in general is reported by all.

A number of our young people met at the house of R. A. Twitchell last Monday night for the purpose of giving a surprise party to O. A. Twitchell, who is spending a short time at home. A very pleasant evening was passed.

Emily Flint Rebekah Lodge has appointed the following officers to serve through the coming year: Noble Grand, Nelle Phipps; Vice Grand, Donnie Wheeler; Sec., Abbie P. Wight; Fin. Sec., Nellie Wheeler; Treas., Angie Sawyer; Warden, Bertha M. Taylor; Con., Alice D. Martin; Inside Guard., Lizzie Yates; Outside Guard., L. K. Phipps; Chaplain, Hannah Stearns; R. S. N. G., Susie Barrows; L. S. N. G., Diantha Robbins; R. S. N. G., Lydia Blanchard; L. S. V. G., Edna Burnell.

AGENTS WANTED!
We want a number of Good Agents to sell the
LINCOLN
—FOUNTAIN—
PEN.
It is one of the best pens on the market and sells at a low price.
For terms etc., address,
33tf NEWS PUB. Co., Bethel, Me.

NEW DRESS GOODS
THE LATEST NOVELTIES AT POPULAR PRICES.
Blankets, Hosiery, Underwear.
Small wares and Domestics
at prices that we know
are right.
COME IN AND LOOK OVER OUR STOCK.
G. P. BEAN,
Cor. Church & Main Sts.,
BETHEL, - MAINE.

MY STOCK
is now complete in all lines.
Clothing, Ulsters & Fur Coats, Hats, Fur or Scotch caps
for men and boys.
Men's outside Shirts & Flannels from the cheapest to the best Camel's Hair.
The best Stock of Men's, Women's and Children's BOOTS, SHOES, and RUBBERS to be found in town.
75 doz. Handkerchiefs from 2 cts to 50 cts. each.
Ladies' Fur Muffs and Tippets.
Hosiery and Gloves.
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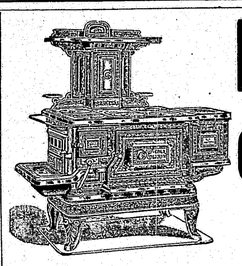
25 Envelopes, any style, for 5¢ a bunch at the NEWS office. 23



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Our line of Fancy Glassware, Crockery, etc. Parlor lamps, Cups and Saucers, Pretty Dishes, etc., are our specialties.
HASTINGS BRO'S.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING
Can be obtained in but few places,
THE NEAREST YOU
can come to this in Oxford County is at the ware room of the BETHEL CHAIR CO. where you can purchase fine
OAK CHAMBERSUITS
FORMERLY SOLD FOR 40 TO $50
FOR $20. AND $25.
We handle all our goods from first hands directly from Factory
We also keep in stock
AT BOTTOM PRICES
Spruce Boards, Joists, Lathes,
Shingles, both Spruce and Canadian Cedar.
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All Sorts Of Folks
are treated exactly alike in our store. We make no distinctions. We have made our store a place where people with lots of dollars can be suited exactly, and where those who have to count their dollars carefully, can get more for their money than anywhere else. We have taken stock and have marked down several lines, and now offer you
1 Lot of Heavy Black Cheviot Double Breasted suits for.....$5
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Never sold for less than $8.
1 Lot Woolen Mitts for 10c. per pr.
We have a big stock of clothing and want to dispose of it in the next month to make room for our spring stock. We offer special inducements to customers to do so.
☞ *Money Back if not Suited.*
H. B. FOSTER,
NORWAY, - MAINE.
Opera House Block.

My Stock Consists Of
Spruce Dimensions, Lathes, Clapboards, Shingles, Bass, Whitewood, No. Carolina, Norway, Spruce Western and Sap Pine Sheathing.
Doors and Door Frames,
Outside and Inside Thresholds, Windows, Window Frames, Stool Caps, Band Casings, Sur base, Weights and Cord.
Cedar Sash and Frames, Blinds and Blind Trimmings. Screen Doors, Whitewood Mantle Shelves, Hood Brackets, Framing Pins, &c. Window Screens made to order. Piazza Posts (Whitewood and Pine), Turned and Sawed Balustrade Newel Posts, Stair Rail and Balusters. Yellow Birch, Rock Maple, So. Rift Pine and Spruce Flooring, Western Pine, Cypress, Sycamore, Mahogany, Quartered Oak, Whitewood, Gum, Black Walnut, Oregon Cedar, Cherry, California Redwood and Native woods in stock.
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TELEPHONE CONNECTION. Norway, Me

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but have sold direct to the consumer for 23 years, at wholesale prices, saving them the dealers' profits. Ship anywhere for examination before sale. Everything warranted. 100 styles of Carriages, 30 styles of Harness, 41 styles Riding Saddles. Top Buggies as low as $35. Phaetons as low as $50. Spring Wagons $11 to $50. Send for large catalogue.
No. 16½—Surrey Harness, Price $14.50. As good as sells for $20.

No. 723—Price, with lamps, sunshade, apron and fenders, $60.00. As good as sells for $75.
ELKHART CARRIAGE & HARNESS MFG. CO., W. B. Pratt, Sec'y, ELKHART, IND.

OSWALD AND ARMSTRONG.

Here is a New Ad This Week.

We Are Having a Perfect Scramble for these Trades.

Black Figured Dress Goods, worth 25 cents per yard, for **15c.**

Figured Worsted Challies 28 in. wide, fast colors, never before sold for less than 25c yd. Only **9c.**

Printed Pongees in dark and light grounds fast colors. Always sold for 19c. yd, Our price **7½c.**

42 inch German Novelty Dress Goods, retailed elsewhere at 50c. yd. Our price only **25c.**

All Wool Imperial Serges, 46 in. wide, former price 75c. yd. Now being sold at **48c.**

BOOK DEPARTMENT, SPECIAL.

Handy Classic Series, 25 different titles, a 25c. book for **10c.**

E. P. Roe's Barriers Burned Away, Original Belle, Young Girls Wooing. Opening Chestnut Burr. Amelia Barr's Jan Vedders Wife, and Border Shepardess, **25c.**

Ladies' Black Wooven Hose. Per pair **12½c.**

Ladies' Fleece Lined Jersey Vests and Pants, worth 25c. each, for **19c.**

Ladies' Black Worsted Mittens reduced from 39c. per pair to **25c.**

Ladies' Ready Made Black Figured Dress Skirts, usually sold at $4, lined through out and bound with Velveteen binding, only **2.75** EACH.

Best Apron Check Ginghams. Per yard, **5c.**

Good Yard wide Sheeting **4c.**

Pillow Tubing, requires no seaming, 42 in. wide usually sold at 16c. yd. now **10c.**

Big Bargains in Cloaks, Garments, Mackintoshes, Blankets, Underwear, Hosiery, and Corsets.

When ordering goods mention NEWS.

AGENTS FOR BUTTERICK PATTERNS.

OSWALD & ARMSTRONG,

LEWISTON. ME.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR POWERS.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Called and chosen by the voters of the State of Maine to legislate in and for their interests and welfare, during the years 1897 and 1898, we have, one and all of us, I sincerely believe, accepted this trust, and duty, with a proper appreciation of its importance and many responsibilities; and also with a special determination that whatever has been committed to us to do shall be performed with strict fidelity and unselfish devotion.

LLEWELLYN POWERS.

At the commencement of this new year we have very much for which to be truly thankful. Our people have been and are today signally blest with peace, plenty, and general health and happiness. During the past year the products of our farms have been the most fruitful ever known. The skies are already brightening in our State and nation with the promise of greater coming industrial prosperity. The clouds of depression and distrust, that have to a great extent injured and paralyzed our industries, are, we hope, fast melting away, and we even now perceive evidences of the dawning of the day when we shall reap and enjoy the beneficial effects, resulting from the recent verdict of the American people in favor of sound currency, protection and good government. Certainly we have escaped all immediate danger of partial repudiation of our public and private indebtedness and practical confiscation of the assets of the industrious and saving.

I have an abiding faith that with confidence restored, prosperity and enterprise will ere long once more return to rule and bless our land.

Maine during the past four years has had a steady, though not rapid growth, and has been moving onward in the right direction, building railroads, and developing some of our vast resources, and I believe that I may confidently predict that the immediate future has in store for us much better and greater progress than we have ever before realized or enjoyed.

Our young men have, very generally, ceased to emigrate to the far West as soon as they are old enough to commence life for themselves. They are beginning to learn and realize the important truth, that at home are to be found more certain inducements and advantages, with much less of hardship, suffering and privation.

Our people have learned, in the stern school of experience, to their sorrow and cost, that a large part of the many millions of money that have been sent westward to enrich and build up that section, and to be invested in all sorts of wild and visionary schemes, will never be returned to them again; and they will no longer permit themselves to be deluded and deceived by specious pretences and false promises rarely ever to be realized. We may therefore reasonably hope that their savings, hereafter, will be largely employed in more fully developing the resources of our own State.

It is sad to contemplate what vast strides we might have made in material prosperity, wealth, and population, if the large sums that have been sent abroad and lost, had been kept at home and carefully invested in legitimate enterprises here. For there were, and are, ample opportunities to use this money in Maine. Factories and mills might now be using our magnificent water powers which are running to waste.

To check this tendency, and to induce our savings banks to invest more largely in Maine, the Legislature of 1893 enacted a law, which action I cheerfully and gladly supported—providing for a lighter tax on home investments thereafter made. At the time of its passage I believed the discrimination to be good policy—but too small. I am more firmly convinced of it now than I was then.

The promise of large interests or profits is easily and often made by those who can only repay either principal or interest in case some deal or utopian scheme shall succeed, and by these flattering assurances have too often found confiding individuals and institutions who have been induced to place faith in them.

We can with confidence call the attention of capital and capitalists to the bright prospects and many undeveloped resources of our State, and to the certainty that all investors and investments will not suffer from unfriendly legislation, and will be fairly and equitably treated and protected by equal, just, and wise laws.

We point with just pride and gratification to our State, to its position, past and present, in the councils of the nation. We have a good soil, a healthy and invigorating climate, an unrivaled seacoast, excellent harbors, splendid scenery, beautiful lakes and rivers, extensive and magnificent forests, and a general diffusion of education and knowledge free to all. In none is the standard of excellence and intelligence higher.

Every person within our borders enjoys fully the blessings of personal liberty and individual security.

Our many miles of seacoast, with its cool bracing air in midsummer, dotted o'er with comfortable and often elegant summer cottages and hotels, indented with numerous harbors, bays, and inlets, presents to the summer tourist or resident unrivaled attractions and attractions.

Our vast forests abound with moose, deer, caribou, and other game. Our streams, lakes, rivers and bays, well stocked with many varieties of fish, offer to sportsmen unequaled attractions, and bring, with each recurring year, large and steadily increasing numbers of people, whose sojourn here is pleasant, healthful and beneficial to themselves and profitable to many of our own citizens.

Certainly it would seem that we have ample inducements to retain our own people, and to draw those to us from other lands who are looking and hoping to enjoy these advantages with us.

The burdens of taxation in most of our towns are comparatively light, but must necessarily be somewhat commensurate with the expense of our necessary and reasonably expect to have good schools, good roads, good municipal government, and all the comforts and blessings of a highly civilized community, without paying for them, and I believe that the tax payers, generally, are willing to do so. They do, however, rightly insist that the assessment, as far as possible, be made to bear equally and equitably upon all property and residents. People do not complain of taxation which is burdensome, if they are convinced of its necessity and equality. We had ample evidence of this during, and for a time after, the close of the late Civil War.

It is sometimes said that if certain species of property is taxed the possessors or owners will leave the State. It is not worth while to tax such men to stay here by omitting to tax them or their assets. The man who will not willingly bear his fair share, but desires to load it upon his neighbors, we can well spare.

All farms, manufactories, mills, factories, railroads and the like are certain to be included in the tax gatherer's list, and should not be compelled to pay unreasonably high taxes by reason of other assessable property escaping taxation.

In this connection I would urgently impress upon this Legislature the advisability of going slow and using great care in exempting property from taxation. The tendency in this direction should be checked. It was one of the greatest evils of the middle ages.

To exempt or to fail to tax is simply to add so much more to the amount placed upon property which is included in the lists; and often this additional burden is placed upon property that can ill afford to bear it.

The biennial State valuation of the State board of assessors will contain very important information for your consideration. It will show a steady though not very large increase in wealth, and, judging by the increase in the number of polls, there must be an additional and increase in population of 15,000 in the last two years.

The wisdom of the Legislature in creating this board has been fully justified by experience and the faithful work it has done.

Under the old system once in ten years only were values equalized and changed. Under the new this takes place every two years and keeps the amount of tax assessed more equitable and proportionate to the value of property in the various cities and towns.

Now our valuations, upon which State and county taxes are assessed, readily respond to and are based upon any changes in value very soon after they occur.

I am glad to know that the board of assessors have not so much endeavored to be able to show a large increase in wealth as to more thoroughly equalize the values placed upon property, and it is gratifying to learn that, acting under this rule, notwithstanding a large deduction of $3,814,535.00 from vessel property, which they were compelled to make under the shipping act of 1895, they are still able to report an increase in these times of depression of $4,022,628.00.

In the end there can be no doubt that it is the part of wisdom not to create imaginary values upon paper, but to act under the rule, which has guided the assessors in making their valuation, that no property should be valued beyond what it is reasonably worth.

We should not, for the sake of showing prosperity or increased wealth, raise values beyond what the facts will warrant.

This board of State assessors, ever since its creation, has, as all well know who have had personal intercourse with and business before them, endeavored to do their duty with great fidelity and fairness to all the various property interests of the State.

They found grave inequalities, which they have, as far as they reasonably could, corrected, so as to promote equal and just taxation.

The task before them, to obtain an equitable and just valuation, which should do injustice to no interests and no class of property, has been one difficult to perform; but they have been equal to it, and the people are very generally well satisfied with their conclusions.

I think the State owes to them very much for the impartial, patient and intelligent investigation which they have given to the many important questions that have come before them, and the eminently fair and just conclusions at which they have arrived.

This board is of so much importance—it being very desirable that all should have confidence in it—that I know you will see to it that none but men of ability, sound judgment, strict integrity and business experience shall be selected to act as members of it.

The people should have as implicit reliance in this board of State assessors, and should feel as much confidence in the correctness and justness of their conclusions, as they do in the judiciary of our State, and its standard of integrity should be as high.

FINANCES.

The financial condition of our State, its available resources under existing laws, and its probable annual expenditures, is a subject in which one and all of our people have a deep interest and one to which I would urgently invite your careful attention and consideration.

The credit of our State is now, and always has been, upon a very high plane. Its three per cent. bonds always command a premium. The large indebtedness, which was a legacy to us from the war of 1861, has been gradually reduced and paid off until at the present time our bonded debt is, in round numbers, $2,303,000.00, several years past it has been extinguished at the rate of $50,000.00 per annum. Good policy, and a proper regard for future contingencies, demand that we continue during this and next year to pay at least as large an amount.

I shall not at this time attempt to present to you any extended detailed or itemized exhibit of past or probable future receipts or expenditures.

The reports of the State treasurer, which will be furnished you, and which I trust each of you will carefully examine, will acquaint you with all the necessary data of the past two years, and enable you to form correct conclusions as to the future. They are now sole authority.

But there are certain deductions and conclusions with which I am impressed by an examination of those reports, to which I would invite your best thought and judgment.

The balance in the State treasury at the beginning of the year 1896 was $458,196.85. The balance there at the present time is, in round numbers, about $200,000. It is very desirable that there should be at all times at least $100,000.00 to properly carry on its business. The expenditures have exceeded the receipts during the past two years by the large sum of more than $250,000.00. This has resulted solely from the largely increased appropriations which the last Legislature deemed advisable to make, and from reduced rates of taxation.

The same ratio of receipts and expenditures for the years 1897 and 1898 would create a deficit of more than $100,000.00. But there is one other important fact to be considered. The receipts for the year 1897 from direct taxation will probably be some $80,000.00 less than they were in 1895 or 1896, as the tax levied and assessed for 1896 is two and one-fourth mills instead of two and one-half mills, which was the rate in 1894 and 1895. The tax assessed for any year is not, to any considerable amount, collected or paid into the treasury until the following year. Hence the decrease in the amount to be received in the year 1897.

It is my deliberate judgment that, in a time of profound peace, we cannot afford to be continually, year after year, running in debt or having our expenditures exceed our receipts and thus creating a constantly increasing deficit, to be tided over by temporary loans or funded into more permanent ones.

We have arrived at a point where it is imperative that our expenditures must be brought within our income.

It is possible that this Legislature may be able to find some sources from which to derive revenue other than those which we now have; but at present I am unable to designate or recommend any other way than by increasing the ratio of direct taxation.

In the light of present experience there can be no doubt that we must restore the one-fourth mill, which was taken off for 1896 from the rate, and assess two and one-half mills for the years 1897 and 1898. This will be returning to the rate of 1894 and 1895 and as undoubtedly every dollar of the people's money which shall be thus raised will be appropriated to their necessities and respond to a well-defined and pressing public need; as it is clear that a most wise and rigid economy imperatively calls for it; I am confident that the taxpayers will not seriously complain of this increase.

But should we raise the rate beyond two and one-half mills I fear it might subject us to adverse criticism, and perhaps to the charge of extravagance.

People are very sensitive to a marked increase of taxation unless there is some unusual public exigency demanding it.

It is obvious then to my mind that there must and should be a reduction in the amount appropriated by your predecessors, compared with two years ago, of near $125,000.00 per annum.

It is for you to inquire and determine, how and where this reduction or saving can be made, without crippling or doing serious injury to any State institution or worthy object of State aid.

First, you must scrutinize every measure which will open new avenues to the treasury or create additional expenses, and allow none to pass unless their usefulness and immediate necessity is plain and urgent.

Second, you must, in the exercise of a sound discretion and wise economy, grant no more than is absolutely necessary in all cases where the State is bound to provide in whole or in part.

There were many sums, most of them not very large, but amounting to considerable in the aggregate, all indeed for very worthy and deserving objects, appropriated by the Legislature of 1895, which perhaps you may deem advisable, under our changed conditions and existing circumstances, not to continue, and there were other larger sums which you may decide to cut down to somewhat nearer the amount which has formerly been expended for like purposes.

My experience in legislation leads me to believe that all or nearly all of the institutions and objects, that have heretofore received aid, will return to each succeeding Legislature generally asking for increased appropriations.

To comply with all these requests, however plausible may be the reasons assigned for so doing by their advocates, would soon bankrupt the treasury.

You in your judgment will doubtless be able to decide correctly when and where to cut down and curtail or refuse altogether.

I have felt it my duty to call your attention to the actual financial condition, and to suggest generally what rules should guide you in dealing with this subject, rather than to specify or enumerate any particular institution or object where retrenchment should be made.

What I have said, however, I do not intend shall apply to any sums necessary to educate the common people, to support our school system, which we do and has been from the first, a grudging hand, or to provide or care for the unfortunate, insane, or dependent pensioners of the war of 1861.

It is the imperative duty of this State to see to it that no old soldier, or person immediately dependent upon such offers from want in his declining years. To do this is not to bestow alms; but rather to recognize and discharge a sacred obligation which we owe to those whose valor saved the republic, and which, from our wealth and resources, we can willingly and cheerfully pay.

You will therefore make such an appropriation for the State pension bureau as its necessities shall call for.

SCHOOLS.

The educational interests of our State are of paramount importance, and should be properly and liberally provided for. The perpetuity and stability of our republican form of government are inseparably connected with, and dependent upon, the general intelligence and enlightened morals of our citizens.

Every consideration of duty and safety imperatively demand that all shall have a reasonable opportunity, free of charge, to acquire at least a common school education.

Though the facilities for obtaining in our common schools an elementary and practical education are indeed very good, and doubtless improving each year, they do not fully satisfy or respond to the wants of a large number of students who have the time, the desire, and the ability to pursue a more thorough and extended course of study.

In response to this demand, the State has wisely created a free high school system, and also established two normal schools, one in Farmington, one in Gorham and one in Castine. I am confident that very excellent results have been obtained from these high and normal schools.

We have also changed from what was known as the district to the town system. In many larger towns and cities the change was voluntary. In others the act of the Legislature in 1893 compelled the change. There have been frequent changes in the method of teaching, text books, and manner of supervising our common schools, some of which, it seems to me, have been largely experimental, but on the whole they may have produced some beneficial results, yet the State superintendent, and many other gentlemen, who are deeply interested in education, and who have carefully examined into the present condition and workings of our common school system, believe that some radical changes are now necessary in order to be, in our school management and instruction, equal to the demands of the time and the best standards of other States. Certainly the educational system of Maine should be of the very best. The State is expending each year over $600,000 for the purposes of education, and the several towns and cities over $1,200,000 more.

This large sum of money should be used upon business principles and with a view of obtaining the greatest possible good. The purpose and object, however praiseworthy it may be, will not excuse the improper use or needless waste of one dollar, and evidently it is worse than wasted when schools are under the control of incompetent and unsuitable supervisors and teachers, for in such cases it undoubtedly dissipates not only the money, but the time and opportunities of the pupils never to be recalled.

In most instances I am confident that the teachers and supervisors take a commendable interest in looking after the schools. In some cases, especially in our small towns, I am led to believe it may not be so. It is not possible, in the remote and sparsely settled towns and plantations, to have schools of the same high grade, or to keep up to the standards of cities and larger and more wealthy towns. It is claimed, by the friends of education, that the employment of incompetent teachers through favoritism, or for some other reason can only be obviated by having all teachers pass an examination before some State board.

For further and more extensive information in reference to the management, condition and wants of our schools, I would refer you to the reports of the present State superintendent, in which the whole subject is exhaustively treated.

The evils that beset our present system and the advisability of attempting to correct them, or to make any important changes at the present time, will undoubtedly be hereafter presented to your committee on education by gentlemen much more familiar with the subject than myself.

THE INSANE

Every humane consideration demands that the insane shall receive the greatest possible care and the best known treatment. These unfortunate people are peculiarly the wards of the State.

I am confident that in the Insane Hospital at Augusta everything is done that the crowded condition permits, that all patients cared for there have humane and kind attendants, that the medical staff is competent, and, we may well congratulate ourselves that under the wise and careful supervision of its excellent board of trustees there has been no whisper of any practices, such as have been discovered in some kindred institutions in other states.

The number of patients has so largely increased of late, and the necessity of another hospital in the near future was so apparent, that several years ago a tract of land was purchased in the city of Bangor for that purpose. Before doing this, additions have been made to the hospital in Augusta, from time to time; until it was deemed unwise to continue this policy further, or have any more patients aggregated at one place.

The over-crowded condition of the hospital at Augusta compelled the Legislature of 1895 to take further action and appropriate $150,000 towards erecting the Western Maine Hospital on the lot which had been purchased for that purpose. This hospital is intended, in its construction and equipment, to embody all the best modern thought and improvements. A committee authorized by the Legislature was appointed by Gov. Cleaves to superintend the work. Gentlemen of business experience and integrity, they have, I think, faithfully and wisely expended the sum appropriated. It was not supposed that the sum of $150,000 would complete this undertaking.

It was well understood that the grant would have to be supplemented with other appropriations. The report of this committee will give you in detail full particulars of what has been done, and what they will require to properly continue the work during the years 1897 and 1898. This work must go forward. An appropriation should be made. It is for you to decide what sum you will give them to expend this year, and also what sum for the next.

INSURANCE.

The report of the insurance commissioner and his recommendations deserve special attention. This question of insurance is one in which very many are deeply interested. Any legislation which can reduce the annual loss must undoubtedly bring lower rates of insurance in time. We are dependent almost wholly on foreign companies for insurance, and the present rates, especially on farm buildings, are so high as to almost prohibit placing policies upon them, in most cases.

There has been considerable legislation on the subject of insurance, and yet I doubt if very much has resulted therefrom to insurers or insured.

It would seem that the only way we can hope to obtain the much desired lower rates is to reduce the average loss so as to satisfy the companies that they can give it to us and yet make a reasonable profit.

And then have a personal interest not only in preventing fires, but in ferreting out and punishing any persons who shall wilfully burn property to obtain the amounts insured thereon.

STATE PRISON AND REFORM SCHOOL.

Your joint committees will visit the State prison and the reform school, and thoroughly examine everything connected with the workings of these institutions. The reports of the officers who have charge of them will give you a full insight into their condition, the number of persons therein, and the terms for which they have been committed. The general methods of conducting and governing both should be carefully inquired into. Not that I doubt the excellence and correctness of the management in all the departments, but to believe in prisons, reform schools, and insane hospitals, nothing should be taken for granted.

In this connection I would call your attention to the fact that under existing laws, as I understand them, R. S. chapter 142, a boy of only eight years of age may be, for no very grave offence, sent to the reform school until he is twenty-one. I believe that no boy eight, ten or twelve years of age should be ever irrevocably sentenced to that institution for so long a term; and I submit that it might be wise to try, at least in case of youthful offenders, the indefinite period.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, ETC.

The Industrial School for Girls will doubtless enjoy your favorable consideration, and such assistance as shall enable it to effectually carry on the excellent work it is now doing. Nothing can be more meritorious than to help young persons in starting rightly in the race of life.

The State of Maine should continue to liberally provide for and educate the unfortunate deaf, dumb and blind, and also willingly aid in caring for the children in the military and naval hospital.

There are other institutions, hospitals and infirmaries which are doing philanthropic and humanitarian work, alleviating suffering, and caring for those who cannot properly care for themselves, that are deserving of judicious and discriminating assistance. I doubt very much if it is best to encourage an increase in their number. It would seem that less expensive and better results might be obtained from smaller numbers, centrally located, easy of access, where the best professional skill could be relied upon.

MAINE STATE COLLEGE.

The Maine State College has been established little more than thirty years. Those who rocked the cradle of its struggling infancy, amid doubts, hopes and fears, must feel gratified at its remarkable and unprecedented growth.

Its trustees and faculty have been unsparing in their efforts, and have succeeded beyond their fondest hope.

In 1893 there were 169 students perusing the several courses of instruction. At present there are 316, with a certain prospect of still further increase in numbers, notwithstanding the requirements for admission have been raised to some extent. This institution of learning was founded for the express purpose of promoting knowledge of agriculture and the mechanic arts, and to enable the industrial classes, so-called, to procure a practical education by reducing the expense so that it would be within their reach. It is, in fact, a school "of science and technology," where students who desire sound and useful instruction that shall fit them to enter successfully upon the practical duties of life, rather than to sit under the shadow of a great name like that of Harvard or Yale, can obtain it at a very reasonable cost. It is emphatically the college of and for the common people. It deserves, and will receive, just treatment from your hands.

The State of Maine when it accepted the land grant from the general government entered into certain obligations which we should faithfully discharge.

This college has a permanent endowment fund of $231,000, the annual interest of which sum I suppose amounts to some $10,000. It also receives annually from the United States about $22,000 for the purpose of instruction and $15,000 for investigation in agriculture and the sciences.

Its necessities in excess of these sums must be provided for by the State. What further assistance shall be granted it, and for how long a period that grant shall extend, are questions to be settled by you, so as to promote as far as possible the best interests of the college, and at the same time not place too heavy a burden on the tax payers.

Its pressing wants and needs, and the financial condition of the treasury for the next two years are factors to be considered in determining what you can and will do for this institution.

AGRICULTURE, LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES.

Maine is vitally interested in agriculture, lumber and manufactures. Agriculture is the basis of the world's prosperity and wealth. Without it other vocations would cease. It is emphatically the leading and most important industry in our State today. A very large part of our people are directly or indirectly interested in it. But I am confident that our agricultural possibilities for improving, by better and more judicious farming, are not as yet fully understood and appreciated, even by our own citizens.

Our soil yields larger returns per acre than most of the land in the great farming States of the West. In some sections of Maine cultivation is more difficult and expensive, but this is largely compensated by our nearness to good markets, and there are but few sections of other states where the great majority of the farms possess as good and substantial buildings, are as free from debt, are as prosperous and enjoy so many of the comforts of life as in our own. Yet much more can be accomplished by better and more intelligent methods of cultivation and diversification and proper selection of crops.

Our farmers' institutes are doing excellent work in this direction. They are furnishing much valuable information, and awakening an interest which must produce beneficial results that will more than compensate for all their costs.

Impurity in seeds, especially in grass seeds, brought into the State, have done at times great damage by producing crops of noxious weeds instead of grass or grain.

I am inclined to think that something should be done to prevent the sale in our markets of any but reasonably clean seeds. It is not so easy for the average farmer to discover the impurities until it is too late.

It might be well to provide, by appropriate legislation, that there should be some proper inspection and branding of the various grass seeds, mill-feeds, etc., imported here, so that they should be marked distinctly what they really are, lest that no one can be deceived as to what he is purchasing.

In recommending that our farmers and dairy men be protected from fraud along these lines, I think I give expression to what they generally wish and desire of a class of men that are certainly entitled to consideration.

Farmers are especially interested in good roads and reasonable freight rates. Our highways in some localities certainly are not what they should be. There are some towns that are not able to make them as desired without aid from the county or State. In some others the money is often injudiciously and improperly expended.

Under existing laws the burden of maintaining roads and building bridges often bears very unequally upon towns and townships, and is anything but proportionate to the benefits conferred.

Correct these inequalities and provide that all road money shall be raised and wisely expended under laws which conduct his own business affairs, and you have taken the first, and a very important, step toward better roads, bridges, roads, and responding to a demand which is quite general at present throughout our State.

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This difference in freight often drives our farmers out of our immediate markets by flooding them with the products brought from distant states at much lower cost than we have been able to obtain—a condition alike injurious to the railroads and our citizens, and which, I have no doubt, the railroads will effectually remedy in the immediate future. They fully realize that it would be a wise, and, in the end, the best paying policy, to obviate this as far as possible so that our manufactures by their increased output, and our farmers, by raising larger crops, can compensate for the lower traffic rates with the additional business which would result, and at the same time have the means to travel and more largely patronize the roads.

Certainly the prosperity of the industries and the people of our State and our railroads are very largely and inseparably connected.

Our lumbering and manufacturing interests are not in as prosperous condition as could be desired. The unprecedentedly low prices since we have been compelled to met a large foreign competition in our own markets have pressed heavily upon them.

I am not aware that any new cotton or woollen mills have been erected during the past three years, while many of those already built have been compelled to suspend operation or run at a loss.

Under changed tariff conditions we hope, in the not far distant future, to once more see their former prosperous business return. There have been built, however, within a few years, several large pulp and paper mills, and more are in contemplation. These mills have created a new and quite a large demand for spruce and other woods suitable for pulp, and opened a new market for certain kinds of lumber and wood with which our forests abound. This industry, I am confident, is destined to give to Maine very largely the control of the paper production of this country.

Our forests furnish employment for laborers and a home market for a large amount of the products of our farms. They are a source of Maine's wealth, and not only to agriculture. Fire is their greatest scourge. All are interested in their preservation.

Any request or recommendation of the land agent or forestry commissioners, which shall more effectually protect them from destruction by fire, set through carelessness or by design, is of vital importance to all the people of the State as well as to the land owners themselves.

LABOR.

The report of the commissioner of the bureau of industrial and labor statistics contains much valuable information. Everything that pertains to the interests and welfare of what is termed the labor class is of special importance to us all.

When the wage earners and industrial classes of any country are constantly and remuneratively employed, that nation is prosperous and its people contented and happy. I have always believed in and advocated the rights and dignity of labor. I have ever favored all labor organizations designed to promote—by legitimate means—the welfare of its members, and aid men in securing proper compensation for their services, and a more just division of the product or capital created by them, is praiseworthy and deserves encouragement.

As a rule, in the State of Maine there have been no very serious conflicts between employer and employed. We are not cursed with extreme poverty and wealth; with classes having an almost impassable gulf between them, that look upon each other with mutterings and bitter distrust. All our citizens are, substantially, on the same plane in life. Capital and labor have generally complemented and assisted each other, and we may reasonably hope that this state of things is to continue in the future. Yet there are some labor problems to be solved even in our State.

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PROHIBITION.

A large majority of the people of our State are thoroughly and conscientiously devoted to the principles and practice of temperance, sobriety, morality and virtue as a fundamental policy essential to our best development and growth. They believe that the restraining influence of our prohibitory legislation has had a marked effect in eradicating the evils resulting from the liquor traffic.

Doubtless there has not been a full realization of what the most ardent and enthusiastic advocates of prohibition prophesied and hoped, but certainly great good has been accomplished.

In most of our rural country towns the traffic has ceased to exist, and we are moving in the right direction throughout the State.

It is my conviction that what we need today is a more active public sentiment in our larger towns and cities, which will enforce the laws we now have, rather than additional penalties that will make the enforcement more uncertain and difficult.

We should never forget that it is the certainty and not the severity of punishment that prevents crime. All efforts to increase this healthy public sentiment until it shall utterly root out and banish this blighting curse from our land should receive the cheerful support of all good citizens. We should take no steps backward. Maine, which boasts the proud honor of having been the pioneer in prohibitory legislation, should, and will, continue to be a prohibition State.

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